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Near East & South Asia

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Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-94-208 *27 October 1994*

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Arab-Israeli Talks

Leaders Address Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty Signing

Jordanian King Husayn

JN2610125294 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1123 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Speech by Jordanian King Husayn at the signing ceremony of the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty at Wadi al-'Arabah—live]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you. [preceding two sentences in Arabic] Peace be upon you all. God's peace. The greeting with which Muslims and Arabs receive their guests, exchange amongst each other; the greeting that has been taken to every part of the world over a long and cherished history and past. It is with a sense of enormous pride, a sense of fulfillment, that I stand here before you today, together with President Clinton, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, President Weizman, and all our distinguished colleagues and friends on an unusual day, a day like no other, in terms of the hopes, in terms of the promise, and in terms of the determination—God willing, and with God's blessing—of us all to remember this day as long as we live, and for future generations, Jordanians, Israelis, Arabs, Palestinians, all children of Abraham, to remember it as the dawning of the new era of peace, mutual respect between us all, tolerance, and the coming together of people of generations to come beyond this time, to build and achieve what is worthy of them. We will always cherish the memory and honor all those who have fallen over the years from amongst all our peoples. I believe they are with us on this occasion, and at this time, as we come together to ensure, God willing, that there will be no more death, no more misery, no more suspicion, no more fear, no more uncertainty of what each day might bring as has been the case in the past. [applause]

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and I had the honor of signing the Washington Declaration with President Clinton our partner and our friend. [applause] And we took it upon, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and I myself, to shepherd the process of negotiations to a successful conclusion. I believe that both of us share in this moment of achievement and pride and relief for hopefully we have contributed towards a better future of our peoples for all times to come. [applause]

The prime minister of Israel, the prime minister of Jordan, will shortly ratify the peace treaty between our two countries. This will be witnessed by President Clinton. In a matter of days, we will have completed in Jordan the passage of this peace treaty through the legislature. I, who have accompanied my colleagues throughout this process, Prime Minister al-Majali since Madrid, my brother Crown Prince Hasan, and every Jordanian, who has been involved and honored to be involved in this peace process, fully support every word and every letter in this peace process between Jordan and Israel. [applause]

I know it is supported by the overwhelming majority of our people who've learned today of its passage through the Israeli Knesset by an overwhelming majority. These are the moments in which we live, the past and the future. This great valley, in which we stand, will become the valley of peace. [applause]

And when we come together to build it and to make it bloom as never before, when we come to live next to each other as never before, we will be doing so, Israelis and Jordanians, together [applause] without the need for any to observe our actions or supervise our endeavors. [applause] This is peace with dignity. This is peace with commitment. This is our gift to our peoples and the generations to come. [applause and slogans of support] It will herald the change in the quality of life of people. It will not be simply a piece of paper ratified by those responsible, blessed by the world. It will be real as we open our hearts and minds to each other, as we discover a human face to everything that has happened and to each other, for all of us have suffered for far too long.

President Clinton. You have been our partner. You have been our friend. You have given us your support, together with the administration of the United States of America. You are at the helm during these historic moments. We will always remember the warmth of your welcome to us both in Washington, and the warmth of the welcome of the people of the United States of America with which they received our news and lauded our achievements.

No, I will never forget this day and, in particular, we will always remember the fact that you personally came to be with us here on this most happy of occasions at the end of a chapter of darkness and the opening of a book of light. [applause]

Ever proud of our friendship. God bless you and give you every future success and maybe the world needs some good examples of what should happen between people [applause] and hopefully this might herald similar progress not only on all the tracks here in this region because we are all committed to a comprehensive peace. We wish it and hopefully it will be, but throughout the world—the world that is the home of all of us, that in itself is so small, where so much needs to be addressed and met for humanity and for the future.

Behind us here you'll see Elat and al-'Aqabah. The way we have lived over the years at such close proximity, unable to meet, to visit each other, to develop this beautiful part of the world. No more, as we look into the future beyond this point with determination, with hope, with commitment. We survived the hard times. Let our people beyond this point in time enjoy the good times.

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I would like to thank all our friends, all our distinguished guests, who join us here today: The representative of President Yeltsin—foreign minister of Russia—distinguished foreign ministers, our Arab brethren from our greater Arab homeland, our guests from throughout the world, our friends. And a very hearty welcome to all of you, Jordanians and Israelis alike, [applause] at this very precious moment. God bless you all. [applause]

Israeli Prime Minister Rabin

TA2610122494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1139 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Speech by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin at the signing ceremony of the Israeli-Jordanian peace agreement at Wadi al-'Arabah—live, in English with Hebrew subtitles]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] I would like to wish a happy holiday to the people in Israel and in Jordan. Let us hope that this day brings an end to wars, violence, and hostile actions, and that we will no longer know war. With your permission, I will now speak in English. [preceding paragraph in Hebrew]

Your Majesty, King Husayn I; President Clinton; President Weizman; the foreign ministers of our countries; distinguished guests from all over the world; the peoples of Jordan and Israel. From this podium, I look around, and I see the 'Arava. Along the horizon, from the Jordanian side and the Israeli side, I see only a desert. There is almost no life here. There is no water, no well, and not a spring, only mine fields. Such were the relations between Israel and Jordan during the last 47 years: a desert. Not a green leaf, no trees, not even a single flower. There comes a time when there is a need to be strong and to make courageous decisions, to overcome the mine fields, the drought, the barrenness between our two peoples. We have known many days of sorrow. You have known many days of grief, but bereavement unites us, as does bravery. And we honor those who sacrifice their lives. We both must draw on the springs of our great spiritual resources, to forgive the anguish we caused each other. To clear the mine fields that divided us for so many years and to supplant it with fields of plenty.

For nearly two generations, desolation pervaded the heart of our two peoples. The time has now come, not merely to dream of a better future, but to realize it. Leaders should clear the path and should show the way, but the road itself must be paved by both peoples. I do not believe that we would have reached this great moment without the desire for peace in the heart of both peoples, in the hearts of the soldiers and the intellectuals, in the hearts of the farmers and of the lorry drivers who drive through the 'Arava highways in Jordan and Israel, in the hearts of teachers and of the little children.

Both nations were determined that the great revolution in the Middle East would take place in their generation. From this podium, I look around and I see the 'Arava and I see you, our generation and the next. We are the ones who will transform this barren place into a fertile oasis. The dead browns and the dark grays will burst forth in living, vibrant greens.

Your Majesty, peace between states is peace between peoples. It is an expression of trust and esteem. I have learned to know and admire the quiet and the smiling power with which you guard your nation and the courage with which you lead your people. It is not only our states that are making peace with each other today. Not only [applause] our nations that are shaking hands in peace here in the 'Arava. You and I, your Majesty, are making peace here, our own peace, the peace of soldiers and the peace of friends. [applause]

President Clinton, thank you for your tremendous support throughout the entire process, which was vital for the achievement of this final result. I would like to thank many others on the Israeli side and on the Jordanian side that worked very hard day and night that we will be allowed to reach this great moment. The foreign minister of Israel; the head of our team, Elyaqim Rubinstein; Efrayim Halevi; and many others that no doubt contributed a lot to this great achievement.

A dawn broke this morning, and a new day began. New life came into the world, babies were born in Jerusalem, babies were born in Amman, but this morning is different. To the mother of the Jordanian newborn, a blessed day to you. To the mother of the Israeli newborn, a blessed day to you. The peace that was born today gives us all the hope that the children born today will never know war between us and their mothers will know no sorrow.

Allow me to end by the simple words: Shalom, Salam, Peace.

Israeli Foreign Minister Peres

TA2610132794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1154 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Speech by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres during the signing ceremony of the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty at Wadi al-'Arabah—live, in English]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Your Majesty, the king of Jordan; the President of the United States; the president of the State of Israel; the prime minister of Israel, Yitzhaq Rabin; the prime minister of Jordan, al-Majali; my colleagues, foreign ministers, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. In addition to expressing my thanks to the President of the United States for his tremendous support, to King Husayn, for his outstanding leadership, I shall do something improper and tell about my own prime minister: He did a great job with great courage and wisdom. [applause]

We were born as sons of Abraham; now we have to become brothers in the family of Abraham. Not our birth

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but our outlook should be different, where a person to a person will be a host, not a hostage; that we shall mutually help each other, understand each other, and permit me to say, to pray for each other.

It is not just the peace of the brave; permit me to say, this is a peace of mothers, with their children born and unborn, a peace for today and a peace for tomorrow. [applause]

I see the desert here too. Nature made it brown; science will make it green. War made it dead; peace will make it alive, and we shall see an entirely new landscape for us and for our neighbors.

This is the third time that we are making steps toward peace. It's not the end of the road. I hope what has happened today, under the brilliant leadership of King Husayn and Yitzhaq Rabin, will go on, will walk on, will march on, until the whole Middle East will be a region of peace, of promise, and prosperity. [applause]

Now please don't forget that I am a foreign minister, so I shall take this occasion to thank our friend the foreign minister of Egypt, the first to make peace, supporting peace all the time. [applause]

I would like to thank the foreign ministers of Europe and their head of today, Dr. Kinkel, for an ongoing support to make this peace not just a matter of a policy, but an issue of a new reality. Thank you very much. [applause]

We want to thank the United States for the Middle East—it's God-sent support; no other power has ever supported other nations who need peace as the United States did. [applause]

It's a pleasure to see the United States and Russia working together. It wasn't always the case in the Middle East. This is a new addition, and we welcome it with our full heart. [applause]

We see here among us some other candidates for peace—welcome to the club; the sooner the better.

Ladies and gentlemen, it's a great day, it's a great hope, it's a moving occasion for many of us who dreamed it; now it became a reality. It is not just the end of war; this is the beginning of a new cooperation. Let's dream together; we got the license. Thank you. [applause]

Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev

JN2610135594 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1151 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Speech by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev at the signing ceremony of the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty at Wadi al-'Arabah—live]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Your Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal, Your Excellencies Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, President Weizman, President Bill Clinton of United States, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen: I would like to convey to this gathering welcoming address of the president of the Russian Federation Boris Yeltsin. [applause] I quote: I wish to extend my cordial congratulations to His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, as well as to the peoples of Jordan and Israel, with a historic accomplishment, signature of the treaty of peace. It has become possible due to political courage and statesmanship of the leaders of Jordan and Israel. Having surmounted all the apprehensions and having broken down the wall of mistrust, you extended a hand of peace to each other, and now you lay down a foundation for further reinforcement and development of mutual understanding and good-neighborly relations between Jordan and Israel.

We are confident now that creative energy of the peoples of both countries will be aimed at their prosperity and well-being and at building of a happy future for the succeeding generations. Today's event is impressive success of the Madrid peace process that has developed under co-sponsorship of Russia and United States of America. Russia intends to go on with its practical promotion of the final cessation of the Arab-Israel conflict and support for the implementation of the Israeli-Jordanian agreements. Signed: Boris Yeltsin. [applause]

And allow me on my part just to express my personal admiration for the political courage of all present here, heads of states and governments of both Jordan and Israel, and assure you that Russia, as a cosponsor to the peace process, will be with you and with others on all tracks until there is firm peace, and after that, in building truly prospective life in this region. Thank you.

Joint Projects Discussed at Bahrain Conference

Reservations Noted to Israeli Ideas

NC2510223694 Paris AFP in English 2156 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Manama, Oct 25 (AFP) - Arab delegates to multilateral talks on the environment here have expressed reservations over Israeli proposals for joint projects in the region, delegates said.

An Israeli proposal to call a summit meeting between Middle East leaders to discuss the fight against desertification was met with "Arab reservations," said Jordanian delegate Zuhayr al-Mahasnah.

The Saudi delegation here refused to comment on an appeal from Israeli Environment Minister Yosi Sarid for the kingdom to join in a planned clean-up of the Gulf of Aqaba in the Red Sea.

Sarid invited Saudi Arabia to join it, Egypt and Jordan in the fight against pollution in the Gulf of Aqaba, where all four countries have coastlines.

The head of the Saudi delegation, Muwaffaq al-Dalqan, refused to meet with Sarid as requested by the Israeli delegation, Israeli sources said.

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"I have no orders from my government to meet the Israeli delegation," al-Dalqan was quoted as saying.

Riyadh believes that regional projects including Israel "would not lead to a just and comprehensive peace settlement" between Arabs and Israelis, a Saudi delegate said.

Sarid, the first Israeli minister to visit Bahrain, cut short his visit to Manama on Tuesday to take part in the signing ceremony of the Israel-Jordan peace treaty on the two countries' border on Wednesday.

Only four experts remain here to represent Israel in Wednesday's session of talks on environmental issues.

The two-day session here is the seventh round of multilateral talks on the environment since they were launched at the Madrid peace conference in October 1991.

Delegates from around 20 countries are attending the talks including Israel, which has no diplomatic ties with Bahrain.

Opening Tuesday's meeting, Bahraini Health Minister Jawad Salim al-'Urayyid called for close cooperation between countries in the region, saying "there are no borders" where environmental issues are concerned.

Environment Projects Agreed

NC2610211694 Paris AFP in English 2023 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Manama, Oct 26 (AFP)—Israel, Arab and other states agreed on joint environmental projects for the Middle East on the last day of multilateral talks here Wednesday [26 October], delegates said.

However an Israeli proposal for a summit meeting to discuss desertification was rejected by "certain Arab delegates," said Japanese delegation head Toshinori Shigie.

Jordanian delegate Zuhayr al-Mahasinah said earlier the Israeli proposal had met with "Arab reservations."

The Saudi delegation also rejected a call from Israeli Environment Minister Yosi Sarid to join a clean-up of the Gulf of Aqaba, which Israel is planning with Egypt and Jordan.

Riyadh believes that regional projects including Israel "should not precede a just and comprehensive peace settlement" between Arabs and Israelis, a Saudi delegate said.

Despite the Saudi reservations, the Gulf of Aqaba project was approved by other delegations after the two-day session here, Shigie told reporters.

It involves setting up three anti-pollution centres in the ports of al-'Aqabah in Jordan, Elat in Israel and Nuwaybi' in Egypt.

Work will begin in 1996 at a cost of six to seven million dollars provided by Japan, the European Union and Israel.

Delegates also agreed on a "code of good conduct and cooperation" against industrial pollution, procedures to prevent leaks of toxic products, and a Bahraini proposal to set up an environmental protection centre in Manama.

Egypt and Israel will hold talks brokered by Japan on combating nuclear radiation and pollution.

Sarid was the first Israeli minister to visit Bahrain, where he earlier held talks with Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak Al Khalifah.

Bahrain, like the other Gulf monarchies—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman—has no diplomatic ties with Israel. But the Gulf states are taking part in the multilateral talks launched at the Madrid peace conference in October 1991.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Butrus-Ghali: Mideast Peace Process 'Irreversible'

MM2610160094 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Oct 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Samir 'Atallah: "Ghali Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: 'The Region Tops Clinton's List of Priorities But the Peace Process Is a Long One'"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] London—UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali has stated that "the Middle East peace process is a long and difficult process but it is irreversible."

In an interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in London on his way to Central Asia, Dr. Ghali said that it took 15 years to complete the procedural structures of the Egyptian-Israeli peace process in Taba. He saw U.S. President Bill Clinton's tour of the region as "evidence of U.S. interest in Arab-Israeli peace as a priority in Washington's foreign policy." He said that the world is full of disputes and the fact that the U.S. President singled out that region to personally visit is an indication of how much the Middle East means to the United States.

Asked if he expects a breakthrough on the Syrian-Israeli track, he said that that is the most complex track and that he is not familiar with the details. He added that "it is difficult to say which track is more difficult than the other because they are all interlinked and one affects the other, but comprehensive peace will be the same in the end." [passage omitted]

In reply to a question about the current situation in Afghanistan, he said that "the political situation there is not about to be resolved. Kabul is a devastated city and the situation there is saddening. We are doing what we can in the form of relief work. I have met with the

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various Afghan leaderships in Islamabad but we could not reach full agreement. Perhaps the most difficult aspect of the Afghan situation is that of the thousands of mines planted everywhere. Clearing these mines would take years, a fact which impedes the return of the refugees and, therefore, the peace process."

On Iraq, he said that Baghdad's political stance is hampering the lifting of the sanctions, and that the Security Council resolutions are clear on that.

Dr. Ghali spoke of an extremely important development in Somalia. He said that a UN commission will visit Mogadishu next week with a final and clear ultimatum to all the warring parties: There should either be national reconciliation or the United Nations will withdraw immediately, with completion of the withdrawal by next March. He said that the peacekeeping operation in Somalia is costing the United Nations $3 million a day, and that cannot continue unless the Somalis make progress toward national reconciliation which is the only way of saving their country. [passage omitted]

Arab League Official on Clinton Tour, Peace

JN2710064194 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1717 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Interview with 'Adnan 'Imran, Arab League assistant secretary general for political affairs, by Salah Salamah on 26 October; place not given—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Salamah] Mr. Adnan 'Imran, Arab League assistant secretary general for political affairs, U.S. President Bill Clinton's current tour of the region and his participation today in the signing of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel highlight full U.S. support for the settlement process in the Middle East. In your capacity as a key official at the Arab League, what is your assessment of this tour and its objectives?

['Imran] Certainly, all of us believe that this tour is very important because it is a tour by the President of the United States. Of course, we all realize that the United States is one of the cosponsors, or rather the main sponsor, of the peace conference. Moreover, the United States is playing a essential role with regard to the nature of its relations with Israel and to the support that is being offered and also with regard to the Arab desire for this U.S. role under the hope that it will pave the road toward a comprehensive, durable, and comprehensive peace.

Proceeding from this, all the Arab countries, especially the parties that are directly concerned, welcome this visit and hope that it will be successful. However, hopes alone cannot guarantee the desired success. In order for this visit to achieve the success we desire in terms of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the region, it must be fully based on the principles of the Madrid peace conference; that is, UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy. There should also be a clear vision that peace cannot last if it is not comprehensive and just.

In other words, we expect U.S. President Clinton to reject any attempts to sign incomplete agreements—agreements that are not based on UN resolutions and legitimate rights—because a lasting peace needs to be based on international law. Any incomplete peace will be nothing more than a truce between two wars.

From this premise, we wish the U.S. President's tour every success. As I said, we hope the vision will continue to be based on the resolutions of international legitimacy.

[Salamah] In light of this position, as you know the U.S. Administration is working relentlessly to advance the negotiating process between Syria and Israel. However, as we noted so far, it did not force the Israeli side to commit itself to the principles of the settlement as set by the Madrid conference, specifically the land-for-peace formula. Do you think that President Clinton's visit to Syria will contribute to the clarity of the U.S. role? Do you personally expect that this visit will result in any positive developments toward activating the peace process between Syria and Israel?

['Imran] In fact, this question is very important. [Word indistinct] probably, the reason for not making substantial progress on the Syrian track. The U.S. role should not be simply to shift ideas between the two sides, and it is not enough for this role to be neutral when the subject deals with the implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy. Therefore, it is expected that Israel's exploitation of its distinguished relations with the United States will end, and that this will be replaced by a position based on a comprehensive conception of peace based on the implementation of the international resolutions. Undoubtedly, the U.S. President is well aware that Syria will never relinquish a single grain of Syrian Arab soil or Lebanese soil. The Syrian conception—and it was announced in more than one occasion—is that this should include all Arab soil, including the Palestinian soil. The U.S. President is aware that Syria's rejection of any illegitimate and unacceptable concessions are legitimate because he, as a president, undoubtedly would reject any concessions concerning U.S. land if he were in similar circumstances. Based on this, talks cannot be held in a vacuum. He is touring the region and in front of him are the resolutions of international legitimacy. So far, Israel is procrastinating. It sought to divide the Arab positions, and succeeded in this. It tried to delay discussing the substance of subjects when it postponed discussing the substance on the Palestinian track, and succeeded in this. It attempted to weaken the Arab position through dividing the solutions, to the contrary of the firm position of the Arab League, which calls for a comprehensive solution. There is a famous and clear resolution, that is the Arab League Council's Resolution 50/92 adopted in 1991, which emphasized that peace should be comprehensive and based on the resolutions of international legitimacy. It also emphasized the importance of coordination between all Arab parties concerned with the negotiations. Now, the U.S. President is facing a crossroads. He

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should decide that it is time to put an end to the Israeli procrastination, and to say enough to Israel, and that the logic presented in Israel on secure borders is unacceptable. Such logic has been used by invaders throughout history. Even Nazi Germany used it when it attacked Danzig, in the Polish Corridor. The pretexts given for keeping the land are unacceptable, whether or not this is presented in the form of leasing or renting the land, because the subject does not concern a real estate office, it is a responsible subject that deals with the fate of peace in the Middle East.

[Salamah] Mr. 'Adnan 'Imran: President Bill Clinton's administration strongly supports the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, which contains a special article on Jerusalem. This article grants Jordan the right to religious jurisdiction over the Islamic holy places in the holy city. It has evoked sharp differences between Jordan and Israel on the one hand and the Palestinian National Authority [PNA] on the other.

The PNA emphasizes that Jerusalem is the future capital of an independent Palestinian state. What is the Arab League's position on the status of Jerusalem?

['Imran] First, I will not talk here about what was stipulated in an agreement whose final form has not yet been announced. What I would like to indicate is that there are basic resolutions issued by the Arab League. Jerusalem is not an issue of holy places. It is an issue of an occupied Arab territory. Moreover, it is not an issue of appointing a religious official in this or that post; it is an issue of regaining this territory, so it will be part of the regained territories.

There are also basic resolutions calling for a comprehensive withdrawal from the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories and giving the Palestinian people an opportunity to enjoy self-determination, including the establishment of an independent state on their homeland, Palestine, with Jerusalem as its capital.

Hence, there is clarity in the Arab and Islamic resolutions. There are also UN resolutions stressing that the issue is one of regaining all of occupied Arab Jerusalem. Thus, it is not an issue of a religious official here and there. For this reason, what is taking place now is not a part of the legitimate international, Arab, and Islamic resolutions and positions.

[Salamah] Mr. 'Imran, the last question is: In statements made in Cairo today, President Bill Clinton emphasized the need to fight terrorism. He placed the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, on the list of the forces that are hostile to peace and that should be relentlessly fought. As you know, this U.S. position also applies to the national resistance in southern Lebanon. What is your comment on this U.S. position?

['Imran] First, I believe that we all agree that we regret and are pained by, the fall of innocent victims anywhere, whether they fall in a car due to explosives, in southern Lebanon due to the continued savage Israeli shelling of villages, towns, and houses, or in the occupied Palestinian territories due to the repressive [Israeli] acts and arrests of many people.

However, a big and important question is: Why are these acts of violence carried out? Are they an objective in themselves or an inevitable result of occupation, aggression, injustice, and oppression? If we reach the answer, which is yes, I believe, then who is behind these acts of violence? Naturally, it is the party that insists on keeping the occupation and continuing the aggression, repression, persecution, and torture.

If Israel is really serious, and if the parties supporting Israel are really serious about ending the violence—and this position should be a joint one—we should address the major reason behind this. It is insufficient to say that those who carry out these acts are terrorists. I do not believe that one who joins resistance to liberate his homeland can be considered a terrorist. I do not believe that President Clinton wishes to say that George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, or other American leaders, who led the national liberation movement there, were terrorists.

Most of the Israeli leaders whom President Clinton meets have an obvious record, which they are proud of. They were prominent members of gangs that carried out killings, terrorist acts, and murders of innocents in places such as the hotel at which Clinton will stay—the King David Hotel. Some of the Israeli leaders were sentenced by Western courts, particularly British courts. Despite this, they became prime ministers. More ironically still, some of them won the Nobel Prize.

What is required now is for us to be fair and consider the principles of law when we analyze the issue of violence. We all should stand in the same trench in order to fight violence. However, if we are really serious we should search for the true reasons behind this violence and address them courageously and without any prejudice.

I firmly believe that ending the occupation will make room for establishing a comprehensive and lasting peace in the region. It will also completely end all forms of violence and all acts we condemn today. However, we cannot prevent these acts by turning a blind eye to them and by insisting on continuing the reason behind this violence; namely, occupation. Hence, the U.S. President has to assume a great responsibility. He should tell those welcoming him in Israel: Is it not high time to end this occupation in its entirety without any postponement or procrastination? Ending this occupation will make room for a new life, and open a new chapter in the region's life where there will be no violence and where there will be peace that gives all peoples an opportunity for development.

[Salamah] Thank you, Mr. 'Adnan 'Imran, Arab League assistant secretary general for political affairs, for these statements to Radio Monte Carlo.

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['Imran] Thank you.

Palestinian Affairs

Clinton, Olmert Denied Entry to Temple Mount

TA2710102394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Faysal al-Husayni has said that the Palestinians will not open the gates of Temple Mount to President Clinton and his U.S. entourage this evening if the Americans do not accept the Palestinian demand not to include Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert in the visit.

In an interview with our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem, al-Husayni said that the Palestinians had notified the Americans that only a U.S. delegation that does not include an Israeli representative will be allowed to visit al-Aqsa Mosque. Al-Husayni said this was not directed personally against Olmert, but that the Palestinians would be opening the mosque at an extraordinary hour especially in Clinton's honor, and that they are therefore entitled to impose special conditions. We told the Americans as much, al-Husayni said, but we have not yet received their response.

President Clinton's advisers will try to finalize the President's route in East Jerusalem this evening. Israeli political sources dealing with the President's visit told our political correspondent Shlomo Raz that it is feared that this episode might evolve into a scandal that might tarnish the entire visit.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1005 GMT on 27 October adds: "Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu told us a short time ago that he had asked Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to intercede with the White House, and perhaps with President Clinton himself, so that Mayor Ehud Olmert may accompany President Clinton on his tour of East Jerusalem."

[In a recorded passage, Netanyahu says: "I have just phoned the prime minister and I asked him to join our call on President Clinton—the call of the entire opposition—to hold the visit as planned. I definitely think that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel and only of Israel, and that the whole of Jerusalem is our capital. The right thing to do would be for the prime minister to join ranks with the entire country, actually with the entire Israeli people."]

Al-Husayni Says Visit Canceled

TA2710125794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1223 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Telephone interview with Faysal al-Husayni by Yoram Ronen; place not given—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Ronen] Faysal al-Husayni claims that several minutes ago he received an authorized confirmation that President Clinton's visit to East Jerusalem has been called off. Good afternoon, Faysal al-Husayni.

[Al-Husayni] Good afternoon.

[Ronen] Is this an official confirmation that President Clinton's trip to East Jerusalem has been canceled?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, his visit to that area.

[Ronen] Who informed you of this development?

[Al-Husayni] The U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem.

[Ronen] Did they give any reason for this?

[Al-Husayni] They explained that there was not enough time.

[Ronen] Not enough time?

[Al-Husayni] Yes.

[Ronen] In other words, President Clinton will hold a news conference at 2130 [1930 GMT], but the planned night tour of East Jerusalem and Temple Mount has been cut. Are you pleased at the outcome?

[Al-Husayni] Look, things are back to where they were before. Nothing has changed. I was not pleased with the way things were before so I cannot say that I am happy now, but I can say that nothing has changed, either positive or negative [last three words in English].

[Ronen] Basically, what you are saying is that the status quo has been maintained and you prefer to ignore the controversy that threatened to erupt had Clinton been accompanied by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

[Al-Husayni] Yes. The entire matter should not have been allowed to happen in the first place. A dispute broke out but was subsequently resolved by restoring things to their original state.

[Ronen] Nevertheless, we should now hope that Clinton will visit Jerusalem. He very much wanted to see the holy sites, but this was denied him.

[Al-Husayni] It is a pity that both sides could not agree on conditions that could permit such a visit.

[Ronen] I have one more question for you, Faysal al-Husayni. In previous visits by Presidents Carter and Nixon, former Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek accompanied them for their entire tour. Would you be opposed to Teddy Kollek accompanying Clinton?

[Al-Husayni] No, it is the same thing. However, I believe that Carter and Nixon were not heads of state at the time they visited.

[Ronen] No, you are mistaken. Nixon visited as U.S. President 20 years ago and Carter visited in 1979 when he was President.

[Al-Husayni] Look, the entire issue of Jerusalem is currently on the agenda. The smallest action has political significance and everything is very sensitive.

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[Ronen] Are you saying that due to the issue's sensitivity you sought to prevent President Clinton's visit together with the mayor of Jerusalem.

[Al-Husayni] The problem was not Clinton but Olmert.

[Ronen] Yes, however, this subsequently turned into Clinton's problem as well.

Expectations From Clinton Visit Noted

TA2610182394 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 26 Oct 94 p 13

[Editorial: "The Palestinians and Clinton's Visit"]

[FBIS Translated Text] U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to the Middle East region has several objectives, although its main goal is attending the signing ceremony of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty. In addition, it seeks to invigorate the talks on the Syrian-Israeli track and explore what the United States can do with regard to the Palestinian track, which these days is facing difficult pressure and conditions brought about by internal events on one hand, and the interference of other tracks on the other hand.

Undoubtedly, the United States can fulfill an important role to reactivate the Palestinian track, which lately has been in a state of stagnation either because of transient internal events or foreign attempts at circumvention. Those attempts seek to downgrade this track for regional and international reasons and maintain the Palestinian status quo of stalemate and stagnation. There are parties inside and outside the region that are benefiting economically and politically from the continuation of this impasse.

The U.S. perception of the overall Arab-Israeli settlement is supposed to be comprehensive rather than narrow. It must realize the importance of the Palestinian problem and the repercussions of procrastination in settling this problem in a just manner that achieves all the Palestinian people's aspirations. Regrettably, there are no indications of serious Israeli tendencies to expedite a just solution to the Palestinian people's problem. Instead, bargains and maneuvers are being conducted that do not enhance Israeli credibility regarding such a settlement. This is something that threatened and will continue to threaten the future of security and peace in the entire region.

The Palestinian people, who will observe and watch the U.S. President's visit, expect this visit—the first of its kind since Clinton assumed the Presidency and the second one made by a U.S. President to Jerusalem since former President Jimmy Carter's visit—will lead to awareness and understanding by the U.S. Administration of the consecutive injustices inflicted on the Palestinian people, which continue to this day. Undoubtedly, the United States, which holds the strings of the political game in the region in particular, and the world in general, definitely possesses the capability to influence the parties that are still ignoring the Palestinian people's rights one way or another.

Consequently, Washington can press to accelerate and activate the peace process because it is the sponsor of this process and a full partner in the peace talks. All these expectations, however, are basically linked to the desire of the United States to actually fulfill this crucial and important role, as well as to the U.S. Administration's ability to confront the parties that do not appear to be sufficiently convinced that the hands of the clock do not turn backwards and that history never repeats itself.

'Arafat, Clinton Statements After Meeting Reported

JN2610163594 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Following his meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton in Cairo today, His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, head of the Palestinian National Authority [PNA], said that we have chosen to pursue the peace process until it reaches its objective. For his part, the U.S. President praised His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat and his efforts to pursue the peace process. He said he is satisfied that the PNA is determined to pursue the course of peace.

The U.S. President explained that the struggle for peace dictates fighting those who seek to sabotage it.

Addressing His Excellency President 'Arafat, President Clinton said: We all realize that a 90 percent success rate may be impossible to achieve in this respect. But, he noted, the United States is determined to achieve this ratio in its fight against organized crime.

Adviser Denies 'Arafat Pledged To Fight Hamas

JN2610181794 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Report by Basim Abu-Sumayyah from the "occupied territories"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Marwan Kanafani, Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's press adviser, has denied that 'Arafat pledged to U.S. President Bill Clinton to fight the Hamas [Islamic Resistance] Movement.

Kanafani told the press following the Palestinian president's return to Gaza today that 'Arafat promised the U.S. President that he would work for pushing the peace process ahead, that the two leaders discussed the peace process and spoke about the parties that support and oppose this process, and that President 'Arafat did not mention the Hamas Movement by name.

In this respect, a Palestinian official has ruled out the possibility that the Palestinian National Authority [PNA] would wage war against the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, which opposes the peace process.

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In reply to President Clinton's statements, Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, PNA minister of local government, has stated that the PLO did not sign the Declaration of Principles with Israel only to have it ignite a civil war. 'Urayqat said: Our choice is not to fight our people. Democracy and elections are capable of solving all problems, including political problems with the opposition forces, particularly the Hamas Movement. He added that the continuation of Israeli violence is the cause for the current escalation in the occupied territories and that the whirlpool of violence can only be ended with the termination of the Israeli occupation.

'Arafat Returns to Gaza After Cairo Visit

JN2710105494 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestinian National Authority, has returned to the homeland following a brief visit to Egypt. During the visit, 'Arafat met at al-Qubbah Palace in Cairo yesterday with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and U.S. President Clinton and exchanged with them views regarding the recent developments in the Middle East peace process.

His excellency explained to the two leaders the difficulties facing the peace process as a result of Israel's procrastination and slowness in accomplishing and implementing the Declaration of Principles signed in Washington last year. He also explained the obstacles placed by Israel on the path of peace, the last of which were the closure and illegal siege of the crossings and borders, as well as the economic and financial difficulties resulting from all this.

Hamas Officials Said Placed Under House Arrest

TA2610140094 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 26 Oct 94 p 4

[Report by special AL-QUDS correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Amman—Press information in Amman indicates that the Jordanian Government has placed Muhammad Nazzal, the Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] representative in Jordan, and Ibrahim Ghawshah, the movement's official spokesman, under house arrest, preventing them from carrying out any activities or making any statement to the news media.

AL-QUDS contacted the home of Ibrahim Ghawshah to verify the report, but was told that he was not at home. AL-QUDS also called to inquire about Muhammad Nazzal's situation but was told that he was not in Jordan. [passage omitted]

Hamas Letter to Clinton Vows To 'Strike' at Israel

NC2610180794 Paris AFP in English 1752 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Damascus, Oct 26 (AFP)—The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) warned Wednesday [26 October] that it would strike at Israel "worldwide," in an open letter to US President Bill Clinton who is touring the Middle East.

The hardline Palestinian group said in a statement received in Damascus that "threats" from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin "do not frighten us, because our supporters are ready to respond to these attacks worldwide."

"Rabin takes responsibility for widening the battlefield," Hamas said.

Rabin has vowed to crush Hamas following three attacks this month, including last week's Tel Aviv bus bombing, which have left 26 people dead and dozens of others wounded.

Further on Letter

NC2610194194 Paris AFP in English 1900 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Damascus, Oct 26 (AFP)—[passage omitted] Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] is violently opposed to the PLO-Israeli autonomy deal which launched limited Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho in May.

The Hamas statement, which began with the words "Mr President," went on: "to attack Hamas is to attack all the Arab and Moslem people, and this will have negative consequences for all those on the side of evil."

Before leaving Cairo Wednesday [26 October], Clinton said he was "satisfied" with a commitment from PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat to fight Hamas. He said he had stressed with 'Arafat the "absolute necessity to combat Hamas."

On Sunday Hamas warned Israel it would face more bloodshed if it did not release the group's founder Shaykh Ahmad Yasin, serving life in jail for murder, and all Palestinian prisoners.

Israel holds more than 5,000 prisoners.

In its address to Clinton Hamas said "the anger among our people is growing, while you continue to ignore the fate of Shaykh Ahmad Yasin."

Hamas militants who kidnapped an Israeli soldier earlier this month demanded that the shaykh be released. Corporal Nahshon Wachsman was killed on October 14 when Israeli troops stormed the Hamas hideout where he was being held.

"We are sure your country is not playing a particularly fair and just role," the Hamas statement said. It accused Washington of "putting pressure on the PLO to make it accept accords which are totally unfair for the Palestinian people.

"Since you came to power you have given up all the traditional US positions.

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"You talk peace but one cannot describe all these injustices as peace," Hamas said. It did not directly threaten US interests.

In Beirut hundreds of supporters of the Iranian-backed Hizballah set fire to Israeli and US flags in protest at the peace treaty Wednesday.

The protesters chanted "Death to Israel" and "Death to America."

Spokesmen for Hizballah and 10 hardline Palestinian groups opposed to the peace process denounced any normalisation of ties with Israel.

In 'Ayn al-Hilwah, the largest Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon, schoolchildren went on strike and marched through the streets denouncing King Husayn of Jordan as a "traitor."

Black flags were hung on mosques at the three main Palestinian camps in the Tyre region further south.

Fatah Assails Israeli-Jordanian Agreement

'Supreme Strategy Committee' Statement

TA2610160794 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 26 Oct 94 p 5

[FBIS Translated Text] The West Bank—The Fatah Supreme Strategy Committee in the occupied Palestinian territories issued a statement yesterday on the Israeli-Jordanian agreement. The statement stressed that the agreement's content regarding Jerusalem is illegal and a violation of the Oslo Accord. Holy Jerusalem is indivisible from the political, religious, civilian, and national whole. It is the eternal and historical capital of the independent Palestinian state and there will be no peace without it. The statement also called for national unity to confront the coming stage.

The statement added that the Israeli-Jordanian agreement on Jerusalem also violates the most elementary and inalienable rights of our people and contravenes the principles of Arab and Islamic relations.

The statement noted that internationally the agreement means that the issue of Jerusalem has been confined to only religious aspects, as if the Palestinians have no connection with the holy city.

The statement warned against the results of the Jordanian-Israeli agreement with regard to the holy city and against King Husayn's visit to Jerusalem while it is under occupation.

The statement said that the agreement is a political conspiracy that seeks to circumvent the Oslo Accord and place a low ceiling on its political horizons. This is something that realizes Israel's desire and decision to maintain its sovereignty over Jerusalem while magnanimously granting Jordan religious custody and granting the Palestinians only civil jurisdiction over the Palestinian inhabitants.

Referring to the measures taken by Jordan with regard to the Islamic holy sites and the Awqaf and its appointment of a new mufti for Jerusalem, the statement said that this represents an abandonment of legitimate Palestinian rights over Jerusalem, an attempt to remove the Jerusalem issue from the Palestinian negotiators' agenda, and a new attempt to impose trusteeship over our people.

The statement added: "In the face of these grave challenges we call on Fatah cadres and members to be more unified and vigilant. We also call on all Palestinian political forces to unite in the face of the coming repression and the new conspiracy."

Central Committee Statement

JN2610200094 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Central Committee of the Palestinian National Liberation Movement, Fatah, issued a political statement today on the signing of a humiliating and capitulationist treaty between the regime in Jordan and the artificial Zionist entity.

In its statement, the Fatah Central Committee asserted that what is today called a peace treaty between Jordan and the Zionist entity is nothing more than an expression of a clear capitulation. Through this capitulation, the Jordanian regime has acknowledged the Zionist presence on the land of Palestine and concluded a security, political, and economic alliance with the Zionist enemy against our Arab people in Jordan, Palestine, and other Arab countries.

The Jordanian regime has also dissociated itself from the nation's central cause and the Arab-Zionist conflict. It has also ceded to the Zionist entity Jordanian rights by leasing Jordanian territory to the occupiers, by relinquishing the Jordan River's water seized by the Zionists, and by accepting the humiliating conditions imposed by the Zionists in this so-called treaty.

The statement added: This new U.S.-Zionist penetration of our Arab nation's wall is only an exposed response by the Jordanian regime to the U.S.-Zionist objectives. These objectives aim to subjugate our Arab nation to the hostile Zionist scheme. The feeble excuses made by the Jordanian regime in order to justify the treason—citing 'Arafat's prior treason as a pretext—do not justify throwing oneself into the arms of Zionists.

Concluding its political statement, the Fatah Central Committee said: Those who now think they can tamper with our nation's pan-Arab security are deluded and misled. The consequences of their humiliating acts will not be thwarted by the strength of the United States or the belligerence of the Zionist entity. This is because they

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do not represent their people and the Arab nation. Moreover, they are no more than a handful of persons who will continue to be isolated and spurned.

Al-Husayni on Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty

JN2610165394 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Palestinian negotiating team, has commented on the signing of the Israeli-Jordanian treaty, saying:

[Begin al-Husayni recording] Actually, our goal as Palestinians has been and continues to be the attainment of a comprehensive peace, and we had hoped this would take place as one group and not as separate parties. We used to believe that one party or another could achieve some progress in the field of temporary or phased agreements, but that the final solution should come through a joint step by all.

However, this did not take place. In any case, there is a treaty that is being signed at this moment. We will deal with this treaty as an existing treaty. However, we are concerned that there be no provisions that ignore or harm Palestinian interests. We believe that Jordan would not do such a thing. But, if we notice that there are certain points that could raise questions as they deal with our interests, we will have to seriously discuss them with all the concerned parties, particularly with the Jordanian brothers. [end recording]

Al-Rujub Says Opposition to King Husayn 'Unanimous'

TA2610153794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1330 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Telephone interview with Jibril al-Rujub, head of the Palestinian security services in the West Bank, in Jericho, by Me'ir Einstein—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Einstein] Israel and Jordan signed what is yet another peace agreement in our region, which can only mean that the area is expected to be quiet—and you are angry, mad, and do not welcome it. Why is that?

[Al-Rujub] Look, first of all, there will be no peace, quiet, or security in the region without solving the Palestinian problem. I believe that, in part, the agreement signed today was made at the expense of the Palestinians. This is why we oppose the agreement. We do not oppose the attainment of peace in the region.

[Einstein] Are you speaking about Jerusalem?

[Al-Rujub] I am speaking about Jerusalem, and about King Husayn's intervention in internal Palestinian affairs—with the support of the Israeli Government and the U.S. Administration.

[Einstein] The issue of Jerusalem has not yet been raised in the talks between you and Israel. Why this rush to protest?

[Al-Rujub] Listen, we have an agreement with the Israeli Government according to which we agreed to put off this issue until the next stage. Hence, neither the Israeli Government nor President Clinton have a mandate to grant King Husayn any kind of status in Jerusalem or in any other territory conquered by Israel in 1967.

[Einstein] Do you believe that in signing the peace accord with Israel, judging from its content, that King Husayn is harming Palestinian efforts?

[Al-Rujub] I feel that this has a negative impact on the situation and on relations.

[Einstein] Do you feel insulted because Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was not invited to the signing ceremony?

[Al-Rujub] I do not believe it would have been a great honor for him if Husayn had invited him. 'Arafat did not miss a thing by not attending the ceremony.

[Einstein] Perhaps this is the time to start talks between Jordan and the Palestinians? After all, Israel has an agreement with the Palestinians; Jordan has an agreement with Israel; and now Palestinian-Jordanian relations cast a shadow on the region?

[Al-Rujub] This is the result of the shameful conduct of King Husayn. We have always been ready to hold a dialogue and negotiate with King Husayn but, to my regret—and I also speak as an intelligence man—I believe King Husayn is making a big mistake. He should know—as should the Israeli Government—that we in the territories do not want the king. We have had our experience with him. He never was, is not, and never will be acceptable to our people here or in the Gaza Strip.

[Einstein] A general strike was staged in the territories today. Is unrest expected to continue in the coming days as well?

[Al-Rujub] This is proof that all of us—Fatah, Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—are unanimous in our opposition to King Husayn. We do not want King Husayn.

[Einstein] King Husayn is not in the territories for the time being, and Israel is still sovereign there.

[Al-Rujub] Yes, but he is trying to intervene in our affairs.

[Einstein] And you believe there is reason to raise the issue of Jerusalem with Israel at this time?

[Al-Rujub] Absolutely. There is room and reason, and we are always willing to talk. I believe we should hurry up and conclude the last stage of our agreement with the Israeli Government. We are the only ones who are always interested. We have an interest in this agreement

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and in our wish to change the current state of affairs and have power handed over to the Palestinian Authority.

[Einstein] There are many unresolved problems between Israel and the Palestinians, even before we touched upon the Issue of Jerusalem which, as everybody knows, is a very loaded issue for both sides. This is perhaps the main bone of contention between Israel and the Palestinians. Why deal with it now?

[Al-Rujub] I believe that if there is goodwill, we can overcome every difficulty. Anyone seeking peace and security must pay a price.

Radio Commentary Assails Jordan-Israel Treaty

JN2610183294 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Station commentary: "Jerusalem Is a Palestinian Issue Governed by a Host of Resolutions and Laws"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Palestinian-Israeli negotiations on the future of occupied Jerusalem have been deferred until the start of the third year of the interim period for two reasons: The first is due to Israeli intransigence. The other is the endorsement by the United States and the Russian Federation—the cosponsors of the peace process—of two phases for the negotiations due to thorny outstanding issues on the Palestinian-Israeli track of the negotiations.

In talks with Arab leaders and former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, the leadership of the Palestinian people did its utmost to conduct the negotiations on the future of the occupied Palestinian territories in one phase and to arrive at a final solution to the problem once and for all. Nonetheless, it failed to enlist the support of the cosponsors of the peace conference for this. Likewise, it failed to arrive at an agreed negotiation strategy with fraternal Arabs.

But, it remains to be said that the Palestinians agreed to conduct their negotiations with the Israelis in two phases and that they agreed to defer negotiations on Jerusalem to the final status negotiations only after they had received assurances from the cosponsors of the peace conference. These assurances emphasized that the negotiators would commit themselves not to introduce or make any changes that could prejudice the outcome of the final status negotiations. This applies, first and foremost, to Arab Jerusalem. The Palestinians' decision to accept this was also prompted by the fact that the Palestinian leadership was armed with the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy, such as UN Security Council [UNSC] Resolution 242, which provides for the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and UNSC Resolution 252, which deems the measures the Israeli Government has taken, such as the annexation of Arab Jerusalem, null and void. The latter resolution, furthermore, calls on the Israeli Government to maintain the legal status of Arab Jerusalem. Moreover, UNSC Resolutions 271 and 298 underline the previous resolutions, and deem all Israeli acts and changes null and void.

With regard to the relevant UN General Assembly [UNGA] resolutions, they were firmer and stronger in addressing Israeli measures and violations. Chief among these resolutions were UNGA Resolutions 2253 and 2254. Likewise, resolutions passed by the Arab, Islamic, African, nonaligned, and EC summits have expressed support for the relevant UN resolutions, and provided international consensus regarding the issue of Arab Jerusalem. These resolutions supported the Palestinian people's right to regain their sovereignty over their holy city. Similarly, these resolutions opposed the Israeli Government's position, which calls for the perpetuation of the occupation and annexation.

Moreover, the Palestinians' decision to defer negotiations on Jerusalem to the final status negotiations was prompted by the fact that the Israeli efforts to merge Arab Jerusalem with the Jewish part of Jerusalem met with complete failure. The Palestinian part of Jerusalem was too strong to be forcibly merged with the Jewish part of Jerusalem. The steadfast citizens of Jerusalem have managed to safeguard the Palestinian Arab features of Jerusalem, although it has been surrounded by belts and pockets of settlements. They have been successful in this regardless of the siege laid to the city, the isolation imposed on it, and the arbitrary administrative and security measures taken to unify the two parts of Jerusalem. Thus, the citizens of Jerusalem have confirmed that there is nothing called unified Jerusalem on the ground. They have demonstrated that there are two cities for two different peoples, who belong to two distinct cultures and pursue two different policies, one of which is Arab Jerusalem, which the Palestinians view as the capital of their future state.

All these facts have boosted the Palestinian people's confidence in the inevitable attainment of a solution to the Jerusalem issue in line with the Palestinian realities, and not Israeli imagination; in harmony with international legitimacy and not the logic of force and the law of the jungle; and in line with the sincere intentions grounded in the pursuit of just peace and not the intentions to pursue expansion and domination.

Contrary to expectations, and instead of using confidence-building measures, the Israeli Government has violated the pledges, assurances, and resolutions regarding Jerusalem by laying a siege to the city, denying the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip access to it, and repeatedly declaring that its annexation is irreversible, not to mention the intensification of settlement activities in the city.

The Israeli Government has crowned its violations in this regard by including an article in the Israeli-Jordanian treaty on Jerusalem, one that is in flagrant violation of the Palestinian people's claim to the dearest

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and most precious thing they possess; namely, holy Jerusalem, the capital of their homeland.

Neither side—the Jordanians or the Israelis—have the right to discuss the issue of Jerusalem, or any aspect of this issue for that matter, as long as there is an agreement to defer negotiations on its future status. Likewise, it is impossible to isolate religious sovereignty from political sovereignty over the city before the issue of Jerusalem is discussed in the final status negotiations. Such a thing is bound to undermine negotiations on the crux of the matter, which is the Israeli occupation of the city.

Isolating the religious aspect from the political aspect of sovereignty over the city is in violation of the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy. Moreover, such a thing will rob the Palestinian people of trump cards they could use against Israeli negotiators. Furthermore, such a thing could encourage international and Islamic parties to renege on their positions regarding Jerusalem.

Similarly, effecting such a separation between the religious and political aspects of sovereignty over the city is bound to promote and exonerate the Israeli position.

Having said all this, we would like to say that the Palestinian people and their Authority are not obligated to endorse the unlawful sharing of the city of Jerusalem, because it is in violation of the agreement signed between Israel and the PLO, and also because it is in violation of the relevant international resolutions. At the same time, the Palestinian people and their Authority urge the Arab League to hold an extraordinary session to come up with a specific and binding position on the issue of Jerusalem, one that falls in line with the relevant unanimous Arab resolutions. This is because the issue of Jerusalem is a Palestinian, Arab, Islamic, and international issue that is governed by a host of resolutions and laws. It follows from this that Israel and Jordan do not have the right to single-handedly reach partial solutions to share sovereignty over Jerusalem.

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Algeria

FLN Leader Views Dialogue, Contacts With FIS

NC2610200794 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Oct 94 p 5

[Interview with Abdelhamid Mehri, secretary general of the Algerian National Liberation Front [FLN], by Hisham Fahim in Algiers; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Fahim] What is your assessment of the national dialogue after four multilateral rounds, and what do you think of the formula of bilateral meetings?

[Mehri] The four multilateral rounds of dialogue have been mostly dedicated to discussing the conditions for making the dialogue successful; most importantly, how to bring together the active parties in a comprehensive national dialogue. The dialogue sessions have yet to address substantive issues. Therefore, I believe that the real dialogue has not yet started. It will start when all the parties that could assume some responsibility come together to get the country out of the crisis. It is true that some progress on the road to dialogue has been made, but we have not yet reached our main destination. We believe that bilateral meetings are no substitute for sitting at one table with all the parties. The idea of bilateral meetings resulted from the refusal of some parties to attend the multilateral rounds and the failure to invite some others. In this sense, it is a necessary interim arrangement to persuade the parties that have not yet been convinced to participate to do so in order to overcome the remaining obstacles preventing the attendance of representatives of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS].

[Fahim] The authorities say that they have taken most of the measures to calm things down and that they expect a similar move by the parties, such as appealing for an end to violence. What is preventing your party and other parties from making this contribution?

[Mehri] The parties have demanded measures that fall within the prerogatives of the ruling authority. Most of these measures concern the restoration of public and individual constitutional freedoms. We believe that the political parties do not have to give something in return for these demands, which are rights guaranteed under the Constitution. As for why our party does not make an appeal for an end to violence, this is because we have made such an appeal in the past and repeatedly denounced violence, but to no avail. We concluded that making an appeal to end the violence is not enough to end it. The cycle of violence has become a complicated issue that requires a thorough examination by all the parties to the dialogue and the adoption of a comprehensive plan to end this cycle. Then, and only then, can an appeal be made by the authorities and all the parties of the dialogue, including the FIS, to stop the violence.

[Fahim] How true are the accusations against your party that you kept a joint statement from being issued during the latest round of multilateral dialogue and raised the question of allowing those under arms to participate in the dialogue?

[Mehri] Our position is simple and clear. It proceeds from the fact that, as I mentioned earlier, the four rounds have not addressed any of the substantive problems related to the crisis. Thus, issuing a statement on what has taken place in these rounds is absolutely unnecessary. However, at the insistence of some parties, we demanded that the statement should highlight the points of agreement and disagreement. This made all the parties prefer to not have a statement at this stage of the dialogue. We believe that this is not a sign that the dialogue has failed, just as issuing a vague statement would not make the dialogue a success. As for the question of the participation of those under arms, it was not raised by any of the parties, not even by the FIS. All that has been said in this connection is the work of some media organs and some quarters that fundamentally do not believe in dialogue as a means to resolve the crisis. By publishing these reports, they seek to turn the dialogue into a frightful and dangerous subject to hide the real dangers resulting from the policies currently being pursued.

[Fahim] Was there any contact between you and the released FIS leaders, and what is your comment on the three messages sent by FIS to the authority?

[Mehri] No contact has taken place with Abbassi Madani or Ali Belhadj. This, however, could occur in the near future. I see no concrete disparity among the contents of the FIS messages. The contents include the same ideas and same logic. However, I would like to point out that our party does not accept the ideas of another party concerning its relations. But the ideas of all parties must be discussed through dialogue.

[Fahim] At the critical and sensitive stage that Algeria is now in, what solution do you see that would enable the country to ride out the crisis?

[Mehri] As I said, a real dialogue must be conducted by all the active sides, including the FIS. Any delay in FIS participation would further complicate the crisis and increase its burdens. Therefore, inviting FIS to participate in the dialogue is not a request that would serve the Front. It will only enable it to shoulder its responsibilities for finding a solution to the crisis. The stand here is political, not ideological. Our request is based on logic in view of the present situation.

The participation of this political power has become imperative to solve the crisis. As for our opinion of significant issues which should be dealt with by the dialogue and which, in our opinion, represent a principle for solving the crisis, these include:

1. An agreement must be reached on how to end the acts of violence. We must also agree on a plan to deal with the

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consequences of such acts and to restore peace and security to the citizens and society;

2. An agreement must be reached on a plan to fully restore constitutional life gradually;

3. An agreement must be reached on a plan to set up institutions as stipulated in the Constitution, particularly the elected councils; and

4. An agreement must be reached on a phased program to confront the socioeconomic situation. This program should be implemented by a government whose nature and formation has been agreed on by all parties to the dialogue. These parties must pledge to support and assist in implementing this program.

[Fahim] Some political parties, specifically the Socialist Forces Front led by Hocine Ait Ahmed are demanding guarantees for any agreement required to solve the crisis. What do you think of this demand?

[Mehri] Naturally, all parties would need guarantees for the full implementation of any agreement reached. It is also natural that ideas would differ about the kinds of guarantees. I believe that the nature of guarantees is contingent on the nature of the agreement reached by the parties. We also believe that the external factor, regardless of its significance, will never replace the Algerians' responsibility and role in working out a solution to the crisis. Therefore, we reject foreign interference. The ideas of some parties concerning the guarantees can always be discussed when a solution or an agreement is reached.

[Fahim] The sensitive issue of the Berber language is now at the forefront of political issues. What is your stand on this issue which has been adopted by the Berber cultural movement?

[Mehri] About two years ago—that is, in November 1992—we presented a memorandum to the Higher State Council on the major issues facing the country. We proposed that a dialogue on them be held in two stages: the first would lay down the basic mechanisms for solving security, constitutional, and structural issues regarding the crisis, and the second would formulate a national program for drawing up and implementing some major reforms. We proposed that the second stage should draw up a national policy on languages that would deal with Arabic, Berber, and foreign languages. We still believe that this issue will only be successfully solved through dialogue and by agreeing on a balanced national policy that takes into account basic political and scientific facts and spares the country involvement in futile marginal battles that do not benefit any cause.

[Fahim] Ali Kafi, leader of the Mujahidin organization, recently called for establishing a new party under the name of the Regenerated Liberation Front [Jabhat al-Tahrir al-Mutajaddidah] to unite what he called the national revolutionary forces. What is your view on this?

[Mehri] I look on this as normal. Every Algerian has the right to establish a party if he wants and has the right to join the party that reflects his convictions and hopes. Our party members are in it because their convictions and their view of the country's interest are embodied by the FLN's current policy. They are bound to the party only by their convictions. If these convictions change and they find another party that reflects their views better, then it is their right to join that party.

Security Clashes With 'Terrorist Group' in Algiers

LD2610212994 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Regarding the security situation, a statement released today by the security services said one of its patrols clashed yesterday at Oued in the capital Algiers with a terrorist group that was hiding in a villa. Security reinforcements made it possible to cordon the entire area in order to storm the aforesaid villa.

During this engagement, another terrorist group that was hiding in a building near the villa opened fire on the security forces.

The operation ended at 0300 hours today with the elimination of 12 terrorists and the recovery a quantity of weapons.

In addition, 5 other terrorists were eliminated in the provinces of Tipaza, Medea, and Boumerdes.

A statement by the security services said the terrorist that was killed recently in the province of Medea was (Hantili Sid Ali), nicknamed Azzedine, leader of a terrorist group and who had succeeded (El Saih Atia). The statement added that 5 out of the 19 terrorists killed in Ain M'Lila were also identified.

Egypt

Mubarak Briefs al-Asad on Talks With Clinton

NC2610132294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak telephoned Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at noon today. During the call, the two presidents reviewed the results of the talks held with U.S. President Bill Clinton in Cairo this morning with respect to giving impetus to the peace efforts in the region.

Mubarak Congratulates Weizman, Rabin on Agreement

NC2710075494 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Mubarak telephoned the President of the State of Israel 'Ezer Weizman and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin last night. He

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reviewed with them the efforts that all concerned parties are making to boost the search for a comprehensive and just peace.

President Mubarak congratulated the Israeli president and prime minister on the historic signing of a peace agreement between the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Israel.

Paper Comments on Clinton's Cairo Visit

NC2710081094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0602 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 27 Oct (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM emphasizes the importance of U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to Egypt, noting that it was the first leg of his regional tour that marked the important occasion of the signing of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty.

In an editorial today, the paper says the discussions held by Husni Mubarak and Bill Clinton were very important and dealt with the peace process and ways of boosting the Syrian-Israeli negotiations.

AL-AHRAM stresses that a comprehensive and just peace cannot be achieved except through a settlement that secures Syria's right to regain the Golan Heights and solves the issue of south Lebanon to begin a new peace era in the Middle East.

The paper notes that the fact that President Mubarak joined president 'Arafat in his talks with the U.S. President demonstrates Egypt's commitment to all regional peace issues.

The paper says that unless there is actual economic development in the Palestinian self-rule area in Gaza and Jericho and unless the self-rule is extended to the entire West Bank, there will be opportunities for occasional security disturbances that will threaten the peace.

The paper refers to president Yasir 'Arafat's assertion that Egypt is the real supporter of the Palestinian cause and seizes every opportunity to express its views on how to surmount the problems facing the Palestinian National Authority in Gaza and Jericho.

Party Statement Condemns Foreign Presence in Gulf

NC2510144094 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 18 Oct 94 pp 1, 7

[FBIS Translated Text] The Labor Party held a joint meeting of the political and executive bureaus on Sunday 16 October chaired by Labor Party leader Ibrahim Shukri. During the meeting they discussed developments in the Gulf region. The following statement was issued after the discussion.

The Labor Party has followed with great concern the developments in the recent crisis on the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border. The party believes that the reasons for the crisis stem from the continuing siege and oppressive sanctions on the Iraqi people and the foreign military presence in the Gulf region, which adds fat to the fire of conflict between brothers.

The Labor Party affirms that the immediate lifting of the siege of the Iraqi people, whose suffering has exceeded every limit over more than four years, has become an urgent necessity.

Ignoring Egypt's regional and national role in handling crises between Arab countries and giving foreign forces a free hand in Egypt's place is regrettable. This crisis has also revealed the collapse of the values and role of the Arab League, which, throughout the crisis, appeared as though such issues do not concern it. The Gulf countries ignored their partners in the Damascus DeclarBtion who previously participated in resolving crises.

The party believes that the Iraqi offer contained in the Russian- Iraqi statement was sufficient to defuse the crisis before starting discussion of radical solutions. Also surprising is that Kuwait and the United States rejected this offer. In return, the Security Council's latest resolution on restricting Iraq's freedom to move its troops south is illegal and constitutes a dangerous precedent for international relations that could be used against any country. Such a decision could affect the country's independence, freedom of decision, and sovereignty over its own territory. The party believes Egypt and the Arab League must intervene to the full to terminate the oppressive siege clamped on the Arab people in Iraq, end their crisis, and find a permanent solution to the crisis in the Gulf region—a solution that accommodates the interests of all parties and takes the initiative out of foreign hands.

GCC's Reliance on U.S. in Gulf Crisis Criticized

NC2510112094 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 20 Oct 94 p 8

[From the "Closeup" column: "Why Does Kuwait Reject?" by Salamah Ahmad Salamah]

[FBIS Translated Text] Even if it is necessary to take international considerations into account in solving Middle Eastern problems, this does not mean that the Arab countries should allow international parties absolute freedom in defining the future of Arab relations and imposing the solutions that they favor. The facts show that the contrary is true: At the height of the recent crisis resulting from the Iraqi military movements on the Kuwaiti border, the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states hastened to convene a meeting attended by the U.S. secretary of state and the British foreign secretary, not by the Egyptian and Syrian foreign ministers, the old members of the Damascus Declaration. That futile declaration was released to emphasize the coordination between the six Gulf states and Egypt and Syria. When the critical moments of the crisis were over, the original member states of the Damascus Declaration were invited to meet.

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Despite total conviction that Saddam Husayn's stay in power will remain a source of upheavals, there is a strong Arab belief that endorsement of the U.S. "prescription" in dealing with the current situation in Iraq would only further undermine the Gulf countries and separate them from the Arab bloc, impose a kind of custodianship on them, and exhaust their funds and resources under the pretext of protecting them from the formidable Iraqi "monster."

The imposition of sanctions and a blockade has not caused Saddam's downfall. On the contrary, it has helped him survive and generate violent and unaccounted reactions. What could be expected from a regime forced to reduce food rations to its people to one third, according to a recent UN report?

The Gulf region has become the only arena in the world where the U.S. military machine can move with complete freedom under feeble and vague UN Security Council resolutions. This state of affairs would only increase the factors of internal and external instability in the Gulf countries and create repercussions that could endanger their regimes.

Thus, if it is understandable why the United States should show reservations about the results that the Russian foreign minister reached, it is not understandable why Kuwait should refuse a linkage between a documented Iraqi recognition of the state of Kuwait and its border and the Russian proposal to draw up a timetable for easing the blockade on Iraq.

No one can demand that Kuwait relinquish its sovereignty and security, but it is essential for the Arab countries to look for permanent solutions to guarantee their stability and halt tension and violence. It would be futile for the Arab world to wait for Saddam's demise. Let him stay or go to hell. What counts is that the Arab world should regain its consciousness so it can see the perils surrounding it. The others are exploiting the Arab world's weakness and disarray to impose their solutions and concepts on the Middle East. Would the Damascus Declaration countries dare to benefit from the current international situation to emerge from their impasse?

Policeman Killed, 9 Wounded in Shoot-Out in South

NC2710103394 Paris AFP in English 0953 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Cairo, Oct 27 (AFP)—A policeman died and nine others were wounded in two gunbattles overnight Wednesday [26 October] to Thursday in southern Egypt including one which lasted almost all night, police said.

A plainclothes policeman was killed and a colleague and a passer-by wounded when suspected Islamic militants opened fire on two police stations in Mallawi.

The victim was guarding one of the stations in the town in al-Minya Province, 240 kilometres (150 miles) south of Cairo. His identity was not revealed.

Three officers and five policemen were also wounded in the nearby village of Abu Qurqas when they traded fire with militants hiding in sugar-cane fields.

Police had organised a roundup of militants who use extensive sugar-cane fields in the area as shelter. The gunbattle lasted hours and did not lead to any arrests. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Al-Turabi Discusses Internal, International Issues

NC2710103294 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 24 Oct 94 pp 26-27

[Interview with Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, leader of the Sudanese National Islamic Front, by Talal Khurays in Khartoum; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Khurays] How do you explain the dismay expressed by the West and the United States over the current events in Sudan, especially as they accuse your country of supporting international terrorism?

[Al-Turabi] We do not get emotional like the U.S. quarters do, because we know about our affairs better. They do not realize that our society has also been affected by Roman civilization and by Christian teaching. Our society is a mixture of various civilizations. They do not understand the Islamic movement to be a progressive and renaissance movement, but view it as subservient and backward. The West must understand the roots of this movement and its positive aspects. The world has become very small thanks to advances in communications but they are still living in the distant past despite their technological progress. The Islamic awakening is a progressive and unifying movement and is not directed against anyone. The leaders of the Islamic movement were educated in the Western states and were influenced by Western culture. They want us to benefit from their culture but they do not want to listen to us. I am personally undertaking diligent efforts to create a Western- Arab-Islamic cultural rapprochement so that we can establish a real dialogue between the North and South. [passage omitted]

[Khurays] It is rumored that you have taken an initiative with the French Government to promote dialogue between the Algerian Government and the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS].

[Al-Turabi] I have long been urging the French to hold a dialogue with the FIS. You know that the French have supported the military clique in Algeria. I have affirmed to them that they cannot stand against the movement of history. I have told them their attitude is similar to those who stood against the French revolution. I have told them: The Muslims want dialogue, why do you oppose it? For things to continue as they are in Algeria along with the negative French stance will harm the French regions, where thousands of Algerians who reject the current French position are living.

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[Khurays] Do you believe the Algerian Government is prepared for a dialogue with the FIS, especially following the release of FIS leader Abbasi Madani?

[Al-Turabi] The military solution is in a state of despair. I believe the Algerian Government is trying to open a dialogue with the FIS. We in turn ask the FIS to open a dialogue with the Algerian Government. It has already done this. One of my envoys attended some meetings between the two sides. Contacts are continuing with the French so that they may contribute to the internal peace process in Algeria.

[Khurays] Have you been holding contacts with the French foreign minister?

[Al-Turabi] No but we have been holding contacts with very high-level officials in the French Government.

[Khurays] Despite all this, the Americans continue to accuse Sudan of abetting terrorism and level accusations at you personally.

[Al-Turabi] I know the Americans and their government very well. They know nothing about Sudan and the Islamic religion. The U.S. Government is the victim of the economic lobbies that are annoyed with Sudan's unity and its ending its subservience to foreign quarters. They accuse us of violating human rights, while political detainees [in Sudan] are not even 1 percent what they are in Egypt, for example. I believe the U.S. Administration was behind Carlos' entry into Sudan. It wanted to exploit his presence [in Sudan] to besmirch our country's reputation and accuse it of supporting international terrorism. It wanted Carlos to be a mine that would explode in Sudan's face. But the mine exploded in the face of the United States when we handed over Carlos to France.

[Khurays] We will return to the extradition issue later. The Americans accuse Sudan of being behind the explosion at the World Trade Center. The Sudanese Embassy has been accused of being involved in the explosion.

[Al-Turabi] I have read several myths in U.S. Congressional papers. They are imagining things. They are accusing Sudan of training terrorists and of establishing camps supervised by Iranian military experts. The United States has the military and media capability enabling it to say what it wants.

[Khurays] How are your relations with Iran?

[Al-Turabi] Do you know that there is no trade movement with Iran, not even any cultural exchange? In Iran there is an Islamic revolution and in Sudan there is an Islamic development movement. Those who live far away believe that we are essentially one and the same thing. The situation in Iran is different. In Iran there is the Persian tendency. There are national differences. Things are completely different in Sudan. Therefore there are many dissimilarities between us and Iran in the domestic and foreign fields.

[Khurays] But what is the common denominator?

[Al-Turabi] Everywhere revolutions carry slogans that require time to be implemented. In Sudan we have a different economic system. Our customs and traditions are different from Iranian ones. In Iran the revolution targets an external enemy. In Sudan the revolution aims to achieve domestic peace. And, as I have mentioned, we have no national or sectarian problem. [passage omitted]

[Khurays] How do you assess the recent developments in the Gulf and the Iraqi military buildup on the Kuwaiti border? Do you continue to display solidarity with Iraq?

[Al-Turabi] You know that we were against Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. All the Islamic movements were. We continue to support an Arab solution. We are against U.S. intervention in the Gulf. It is clear to us that the United States is not interested in Kuwait's freedom, but in strengthening its control of the Gulf region. The U.S. Administration's main goal is to destroy Iraq's military capability. It is clear to us that despite Iraq's compliance with every UN resolution, Iraq remains blockaded. I am afraid the reaction will be bad in a moment of despair.

[Khurays] Another invasion of Kuwait?

[Al-Turabi] Only Kuwait.

[Khurays] What is your view of Saddam Husayn's character?

[Al-Turabi] I am in constant touch with him. By nature, the Iraqi character is strong. But Saddam's character is even stronger. He worked within the framework of the [Socialist Arab Ba'th] Party. When the party stopped functioning, when ideologies collapsed, Saddam remained, uncontrolled, and became everything—the party and homeland. Despite all this, there are those who want Iraq to be divided and weak. So work must be done to find a solution to the problems in northern and southern Iraq and to establish the bases of democracy.

[Khurays] Through Saddam?

[Al-Turabi] I hope he will do this. [passage omitted]

[Khurays] Let us return to Carlos' extradition. The French say they paid a high price to get Carlos extradited to them. What was the price paid to Sudan?

[Al-Turabi] Sudan has received no payment. The price paid by the French is that of angering the United States, which wanted Carlos.

[Khurays] You received no payment in return for a person such as Carlos?

[Al-Turabi] We have proved we have ideals.

[Khurays] Was it not thus to improve the atmosphere with the outside world?

[Al-Turabi] Maybe.

[Khurays] What is [Usamah] Bin-Ladin doing in Sudan?

[Al-Turabi] He is a big businessmen and helps Sudan.

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[Khurays] In short, how do you understand the Islamic awakening? Is it a national movement or a foreign threat or something else?

[Al-Turabi] The Islamic movement is led by intellectuals, not by traditionalists or reactionaries. In Islam there is no pyramid like the Church. They are humble and open-minded people. The awakening is very open-minded on dialogue with the world.

Rejects Egyptian, U.S. 'Terrorism' Charges

EA2610190994 Omdurman National Unity Radio in English 1500 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, secretary general of the Popular Arab and Islamic Conference, has dismissed as baseless and untrue accusations made by Egypt and the United States that the Sudan has become a center of terrorism. Dr. al-Turabi, in an interview to the Swiss NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG newspaper affirmed that there is no camp for terrorist training on the Sudanese territory, saying that the allegations circulated by the United States and Egypt in this regard are untrue.

Islamic Front Official Confers With 'Extremist' Figures

NC2610163594 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 23 Oct 94 p 9

[From "The Brothers Page"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The al-Ummah Party in Cairo has affirmed that London was last week the scene of intensive meetings between Ibrahim al-Sanusi, a member of the political bureau of the National Islamic Front, and several extremist organizations, including the Ennahda Movement in Tunisia, the Islamic Salvation Front in Algeria, and the Libyan Islamic Movement. The aim of these efforts and meetings is to organize and unify the action of these organizations, draw up plans to resist and overthrow the Arab regimes, and set up extremist regimes in their place similar to the Sudanese regime.

Our sources indicate that the move is also aimed at unifying and activating the extremist political Islamist trends in the region through the Arab Islamic Popular Conference led by Dr. Hasan al- Turabi.

Following the meetings, Ibrahim al-Sanusi accompanied by al-Nur Zarwaq [not further identified] left London for Malaysia. Elsewhere, Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman Muhammad [not further identified] arrived in Washington, where he had talks and consultations with several leaders of the Islamic organizations. He also visited Chicago, where he held talks with cadres and officials of the Islamic Front residing in the United States.

The official media continue their campaign against Foreign Minister Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih over his meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa. This media campaign demonstrates that the state's foreign policy is run by other centers of power. Our sources added that there is a tendency toward dismissing Abu-Salih from his post and appointing an Islamic Front leader in his place.

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Kuwait

Russian Envoy: Iraq To Recognize State 'Within Days'

LD2710071994 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0635 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuwait 27 Oct—The ambassador of the Russian Federation to the State of Kuwait has renewed his country's commitment to Kuwaiti issues and Russia's condemnation of the irresponsible acts carried out by Iraq's leaders as represented by the military threats and concentrations on the Kuwaiti border.

In a exclusive interview with AL-QABAS published here today, Petr Stegniya expressed his hope that Iraq would implement the constitutional act required of it by the Security Council on recognizing the State of Kuwait.

He expected "Iraq to recognize the State of Kuwait within days, before the middle of coming November".

He added that "Russia was sparing no effort to know the fate of the Kuwaiti prisoners and missing in Iraq, and we have the ability to contribute to this matter."

Oman

Sultan Calls For Expansion of Relations With Iran

LD2510141894 Tehran IRNA in English 1309 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Oct. 25, IRNA—Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman in Muscat Tuesday [25 October] called for expansion of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In a meeting with the visiting head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB), 'Ali Larijani, in Muscat, Sultan Qabus referred to the significance of security and stability in the sensitive and strategic region of the Persian Gulf and said that the peace and security in the region would be ensured through constant cooperation among the regional states and avoiding tension.

Larijani who delivered a message from President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Sultan Qabus said that the Islamic Republic of Iran was ready to expand relations with all the regional states.

He said Iran believes that safeguading the peace and security in the Persian Gulf would be possible through holding direct talks and enhancing bilateral and multilateral relations between the states.

According to the Central News Bureau (CNB), Larijani said that presence of alien forces in the Persian Gulf would further complicate the situation and deepen the cisis in the region.

Qatar

Government Hails Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty

NC2610164794 Paris AFP in English 1457 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Doha, Oct 26 (AFP)—Qatar hailed the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty signed Wednesday [26 October] and hoped for progress in Israel's deadlocked talks with Syria and Lebanon.

The peace treaty "is a step on the path to a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East," the Qatari government said after a meeting chaired by the emir, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad al Thani.

The government also voiced hope that peace deals would be struck between Israel and its northern neighbours Syria and Lebanon.

Jordan and Israel signed a peace treaty at the Araba border crossing between the two countries, ending 46 years of hostility.

Qatari Foreign Minister Hamad Bin Jasim al Thani was among 5,000 guests who attended the signing ceremony, which was also witnessed by US President Bill Clinton.

Clinton is to visit Syria Thursday in a bid to revive the Syrian- Israeli peace talks, which are deadlocked over the disputed Golan Heights, seized by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war.

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Paper: Regional Security Only Through 'Dialogue'

JN2710110794 Baghdad INA in English 0932 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Oct. 27 (INA)—AL-THAWRAH daily has said that security and stability in the region [can] neither be established by the foreign buildups, fleets and aircraft carriers nor by the arms race but by planting the mutual confidence and solving the pending problems through the dialogue.

In its today article, the daily added that Iraq was not an emirate or a small state, but it is a well-known state by its weight, history and leadership and it has the major role in creating equilibrium in the region.

It made it clear that the deviate policy being pursued by the rulers of Kuwait would never resolve the problems but it rather complicates them and exacerbates the situation.

Paper: Clinton Visit To Assure 'Corrupt' Rulers

JN2710111294 Baghdad INA in English 0930 GMT 27 oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Oct. 27 (INA)—An Iraqi newspaper has said that the recent crisis has clearly exposed the tendency of aggression that is deep-rooted in minds and hearts of the U.S decision-makers.

AL-THAWRAH, organ of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, said in its editorial today that despite the wise move adopted by Iraq by moving back the Republican Guards forces after completing their routine exercises and the peaceful call unleashed by speaker of the National Assembly, Sa'di Mahdi Salih, for unconditional profound and comprehensive dialogue with the Kuwaiti parliament, but the response was negative owing to the U.S-British influence.

The paper described the current visit by U.S President Bill Clinton to the region as a desperate attempt for re-bridging the major split hit the U.S-led coalition, and it is an attempt to assure the corrupt rulers and circles in both Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

U.S., Britain Said Behaving in 'Reckless Manner'

JN2510124994 Baghdad INA in English 0915 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Oct. 25, INA—The U.S. and British Governments have continued to beat the drums of war through maintaining tension in the Arab Gulf region. The two powers are behaving in a reckless manner that is stripping the UN Security Council of its character as a body set up with the aim of preserving peace and security in our world, the BAGHDAD OBSERVER said today.

A paper editorial added that the war-mongers of Washington and London are still fanning the flames of war by issuing threats of military action against Iraq. They are acting in isolation from other permanent member-states of the security council who sought to defuse tension during the recent events in this hot spot of the world.

The Clinton-Major camp have even lost the support of some of their partners in the coalition that launched the most barbaric war of aggression against Iraq in 1991, the paper said.

It made it clear that the United States and Britain are acting in violation of the UN Charter and international law. They have given themselves the right to interpret Security Council resolutions the way they like, overlooking views of the other permanent-states of the council.

The American and British war mongers say they speak in the name of international legitimacy. But which legitimacy are they talking about? Does it mean pushing the whole population of this country to virtual starvation? Or is it the legitimacy that denies a sovereign country like Iraq the right to deploy its troops on its own soil? Or may be it is the legitimacy that seeks to instigate internal unrest in Iraq.

The paper said that Washington and London have gone too far in their evil acts that not only cost the Security Council a substantial part of its credibility as a source of maintaining stability but also marginalized the role of other major powers as decision-makers inside the Security Council.

It is true that powers like Russia and France have begun to see things in a more logical way and to oppose Washington's policy in the region. But the U.S. Administration and the British Government have not given up their provocative and aggressive policy, and this requires a firmer stance by Russia, France and China to put, once and for all, an end to American hegemony. Only then can the three powers regain prestige in the eyes of the world and the Security Council restore the image of a world authority whose decision-making is free from imperialist prejudices.

Let no single power keep the world under its thumb, the paper concluded.

Vice President Receives New Russian Ambassador

JN2510154794 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Vice President Taha Muhyi-al-Din Ma'ruf today received Nikolay Kartuzov, new Russian Ambassador in Baghdad, on the occasion of assuming his duties.

Discussions at the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and ways of strengthening and developing them in the interest of the two friendly countries and the causes of security and stability in the region.

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Saddam Chairs Joint RCC, Ba'th Party Meeting

JN2610162194 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1248 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 26 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has chaired a joint meeting for the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi, head of the president's office, attended the meeting.

Minister on Deteriorating Health Services, Deaths

JN2510160794 Baghdad INA in English 1030 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Oct, 25 (INA)—Minister of Health Dr. Umid Midhat Mubarak has said the Iraqi health services are deteriorating day after day because of the lack of medicines and equipment.

In a press conference, the minister affirmed the mortality rates among newly-born babies increased from 24 per 1000 births in 1989 to 148 per 1000 today, adding that the average monthly deaths among children (under the age 5 years) was 70 in 1989 while now the deaths are 4500 per month.

Dr. Mubarak attributed the increase of mortalities among children to the shortages of medicines, medical equipment and food as a result of the trade sanctions.

The minister said since the imposition of the trade sanctions on Iraq in 1990 many diseases have spread in the country such as cholera, adding since the beginning of 1994, some 800 cases of cholera have been registered in Iraq. The minister also indicated that malnutrition cases specially among children have increase sharply.

The minister made it clear that Iraq used to import medicines at a total value of 500 million dollars annually before the sanctions. Now Iraq has imported medicines of only 30 million dollar value in 1994.

He said two Iraqi medical factories have closed down because the country cannot import raw materials and spare parts for their machines because of the embargo.

The minister further added although the trade sanctions do not include medicine and food but Iraq cannot use its frozen assets in Western banks to buy these two essential items.

The medicines are now distributed under a very restrict system which covers only those who are suffering from chronical and killing diseases, the minister elaborated.

He said medical operations are very limited and only done in few hospitals. This is because of lack of equipment and medicines.

Meanwhile, recent statistics on mortality rates among children and the elderly indicated a large increase of death. The statistics published by the Ministry of Health said that deaths among children (under 5 years) because of diarrhea disease during September 1994 only reached 1776 while the number was 123 in September 1989. Deaths among children because of malnutrition reached in the same month of 1994 1586 while it was only 67 deaths in September 1989.

The statistics said that mortalities among people (over the age 50) who are inflicted with hypertension disease increased in September 1994 to reach 338, while it was in the same month of 1989 some 106.

A recent report published by UNICEF, Baghdad Office, said that 2.5 million people in Iraq are likely to be at risk should the economic embargo continue.

The report indicated that nutritional problems are being registered nationwide with increase in case of marasmus and kwashiorkor which are severe forms of malnutrition.

The report said a study by the Government of Iraq and UNICEF in March this year has indicated that severe and moderate malnutrition among children of the age group 0-12 months have increased at a rate of 9.2 per cent from previous year.

The report said the most vulnerable groups include 125,000 children under the age of one year and 575,000 children [under] five. There are also 1,585,000 children under 15 as well as 230,000 pregnant women and lactating mothers.

The report said the increase in the number of severe malnutrition cases, expected in the longer term, may lead to an increase in infant mortality.

The expected increase in low birth weight as a result of poor nutritional status among pregnant women together with an expected higher infection rate among undernourished children will be contributing factors, the report noted.

Embargo Said To Cost $415 Million in Shipping Losses

JN2310122294 Baghdad INA in English 1020 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baghdad, Oct 23 (INA)—Iraq's commercial fleet of ships incurred extensive losses because of a total suspension of its work caused by the imposition of comprehensive embargo on Iraq.

Under Secretary of Transport and Communications Jamil Ibrahim has put the losses at 415 million dollar.

He added that Iraq has called upon members of the International Maritime Association and international organizations to press their governments for lifting the embargo and permitting Iraq's commercial fleet to resume its activities.

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Police Prepare for Clinton, Possible 'Terrorism'

TA2710060294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Some 5,000 policemen have been deployed throughout Jerusalem in anticipation of U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit. About 500 policemen surround the King David Hotel, where the President will be staying, and some 2,000 policemen are in East Jerusalem in anticipation of his tour of the Old City this evening.

Arye 'Amit, Israel Police's Jerusalem District Commander, told our correspondent Aviv Bushinsky that there are estimates that extremists intend to disrupt public order and stage terrorist attacks in order to mar Clinton's visit to Israel.

[In a recorded interview carried by Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0505 GMT on 27 October, Commander 'Amit adds: "Our estimates are that some extremists might stage a terrorist attack not aimed personally at the U.S. President—I assume they realize they cannot do that—but designed to disrupt the visit."]

Our correspondent points out that the police operation will end at noon tomorrow at the end of Muslim prayers on the Temple Mount.

Sarid Comments on al-Asad-Clinton News Conference

TA2710124194 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1135 GMT 27 Nov 94

[Interview with Environment Minister Yosi Sarid by Menashe Raz in the Knesset building in Jerusalem—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Raz] One of the men who has been carefully following the joint news conference held in Damascus and looking for positive points in what has been said by U.S. President Bill Clinton and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is Minister Yosi Sarid. However, to judge by his body language, I do not think he was at all pleased by what he heard.

[Sarid] My initial impression—and I must say that I did not exactly check the text—is that what was said contained nothing remarkable, certainly not any breakthroughs or dramatic developments. I believe there was some hint with regard to procedure, a hint which President Clinton apparently prefers to tell our prime minister in private. I believe there was some improvement on the question of normalization, but nothing really remarkable. However, I do not think there is room for any particular disappointment because according to our own independent sources—very good sources, including Arab ones—it was clear from the outset, even before Clinton's visit, that President al-Asad would not make big strides forward at this point in time because he does not want to be seen as being dragged behind the Jordanians. So, seeing that this is Jordan's week, he does not want to appear to be tagging along.

[Raz] In other words, you had advance information that a dramatic breakthrough should not be expected during President Clinton's visit to Damascus.

[Sarid] Indeed, this was the advance information we had, and it seems to me that it right. But, it is too early to tell because we are talking about the public portion of the discussion between the two men and must wait for the private portion. There are certain hints, but I would not like to decipher them at this moment, simply because I cannot do it.

[Raz] In other words, sir, you are now actually waiting for the tete-a-tete between President Clinton and Prime Minister Rabin where those private words may be said, possibly creating a different, perhaps more optimistic feeling with regard to the negotiations with Syria.

[Sarid] That is correct. I think there is something new with regard to procedures, but once again, I would not like to create the impression that we are talking about some far-reaching development.

[Raz] President al-Asad continues to play an excellent game of poker. It was said that Clinton would not be going to Damascus unless he got some breakthrough or achievement. On the other hand, al-Asad knows that Clinton cannot give up on Damascus and cannot exclude it from the circle of negotiations.

[Sarid] Correct. I am sure that President Clinton must have anguished over whether to go to Damascus or not. Ultimately, now that we know the public result of the meeting, I think President Clinton did the right thing. He had to visit Damascus because if he had not done so that would have meant excluding Syria from the circle of negotiations. However, Syria is included in that circle and we want it to remain there. We should not tire and certainly not despair. Anyway, I believe big things will happen in 1995 on the bilateral level between Israel and Syria.

[Raz] Minister Sarid, thank you very much.

Clinton's Damascus Visit Seen as Unnecessary

TA2610144194 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV (HAYOM supplement) in Hebrew 26 Oct 94 p 2

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "Why Run to Damascus"]

[FBIS Translated Text] When the curtain falls on the spectacle in the 'Arava, where the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan will be signed, a smaller and more marginal act compared to this historic event but apparently very important to him, will be awaiting U.S. President Bill Clinton.

In Washington there is growing criticism of Clinton. In order to gain some (dubious) honor, he is prepared to

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swallow his pride and that of the United States. It is not clear which of his aides advised him to include Damascus in his visit to the region, but his critics at home were not impressed by their wisdom.

It is not exactly clear what Clinton thinks about his secretary of state (who was supposed to be replaced) or about his own aides and advisers, but if he decided to go to Damascus because somebody convinced him that such a visit would raise his prestige and help the Congressional election campaign, in addition to promoting peace between Syria and Israel, he is apparently in for a disappointment.

As far as his popularity at home is concerned, it is highly doubtful that a summit with al-Asad will improve his low standing with U.S. public opinion. To date, his involvement in the political process has affected the standings of the Democratic candidates only marginally, if at all. Moreover, many of them feel that Clinton is not the solution but the problem, so much so that certain Democratic candidates refrain from including him in their campaigns for fear that his presence might harm them their chances.

The press and his political rivals have reminded him that Syria is still on the list of countries supporting terror. So, how can a U.S. President afford to visit it? They also reminded him that according to Drug Enforcement Agency data, Syria deals in drugs and supplies about 30 percent of the heroin to the U.S. market. In short, Damascus arouses objections in the United States and Clinton ran into a mine field.

In order to gain something from the visit to Damascus that might help him and his party in the Congressional elections Clinton must extract a dramatic achievement from al-Asad. Such an achievement would be if al-Asad expresses his willingness to heed Clinton's advice to meet Rabin face to face in order to enter direct negotiations on peace between Syria and Israel. Even then it is not certain that Clinton will succeed in improving his shaky standing in the United States any time soon. However, without a real achievement the visit to Damascus will be noted down as yet another personal failure.

In the spirit of these days, Clinton will probably try to persuade al-Asad to at least publicly dissociate himself from terror. Indeed, a modest request. However, even if the cunning Syrian ruler agrees to mumble a few words on the issue, it is hard to see al-Asad giving up this weapon which enables him to use Hizballah and other extreme terror organizations which have found asylum on Syrian soil to disrupt the political process. Clinton tried his luck on the issue in their first meeting, last April in Geneva. And what did al-Asad reply to him? He told him: How can Hizballah be called a terror organization? How can a young Palestinian fighting the Israeli occupation be called a terrorist? If so, al-Asad scolded Clinton, the U.S. War of Independence could be considered a terrorist operation. Was George Washington a terrorist? Clinton failed to realize the provocation, not to mention the scornful attitude, of "the Syrian sources" who selectively leaked portions of their discussion.

In order to promote peace with Israel the U.S. President must not go all the way to Damascus. On the contrary, Hafiz al-Asad will interpret such a visit—justifiably—as yet another sign of weakness and will go on with his ploys and his manipulations of the President and his advisers as he has done so far.

Clinton's visit to Damascus has been enveloped in a shroud of mystery. Trying to explain Clinton's bizarre moves, pretentious commentators reiterated that the President would not be going to Damascus unless he was assured in advance of a political achievement. But why turn to the ethereal world when Clinton himself tried to lower the hopes pinned on him when he said that no breakthrough should be expected? It is said that Bill Clinton starts his day with a morning run. It may be a habit worth emulating, but it is still not clear why he must run all the way to Damascus.

Jordan Treaty Not To Affect Central Command's Plans

TA2610083394 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Oct 94 p 3

[Report by Alon Pinkas]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The peace agreement with Jordan will require the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] Central Command to review and revise its contingency plans, but for now, these plans, and the command's force composition and deployment, will remain as is, a senior General Staff source said last night.

In the past, Jordan—along with Syria and Iraq—was viewed as part of the "eastern front" threat.

"This potential alignment obviously changed after the Gulf war and with the development of the peace process," the source said. "For the foreseeable future, the eastern front is effectively defunct, but the nature of this region cannot rule out adverse developments in the distant future. We will obviously need to reassess the Central Command's roles, beyond its tasks in the territories. For now, all contingency plans, remain in place."

Russian Minister on Cooperation With Police

TA2610101894 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Oct 94 p A7

[Report by Isabella Ginor]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin, who is also in charge of Russia's police force, confirmed during his visit to Israel yesterday that his ministry is aware of the fact that Russian felons are involved in criminal activities in Israel. According to him, cooperation with the Israeli police has already led to the exposure of criminal rings in Israel.

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Yerin came to Israel to reciprocate Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal's visit in Russia. "We know of cooperation between criminal gangs in both countries, and to that effect we are in contact with Israeli police," Yerin said.

The Russian minister nevertheless emphasized that the phenomenon is widespread in all the former Soviet Union republics and is not just confined to Russia. It had been decided during Shahal's visit to Russia to appoint an Israeli liaison officer in Moscow.

"Our bilateral relations mainly take the form of exchanges of information, including the operational plans of criminal groups. We will continue to develop these relations. Our cooperation was evident in the capture of very dangerous gangs in Russia, with the help of Israeli police, just as gangs were captured here with our help," Yerin asserted.

He cited the seizure of a particularly large drug shipment about a year ago as an example. "That operation was conducted by the police forces of three countries, including Israel, and we were tipped off about the shipment by our Israeli colleagues."

As for operations conducted by Israeli police with the help of the Russian police, the visiting interior minister said: "I am not sure that the investigation of those cases has been completed or that my Israeli counterpart wants to publicize them."

UK's Rifkind Comments on Missile Deal, Ends Visit

TA2510153694 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Oct 94 p C2

[Report by Sharon Sade]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The UK has not demanded the inclusion of a British partner in the deal involving long-range missiles for the UK Air Force, and no such condition has ever been presented to REFA'EL [Armament Development Authority], which is competing for the deal. This clarification was supplied by UK Defense Secretary Malcolm Rifkind in a meeting with Israeli reporters on 23 October. "We checked the performance of the missiles we are being offered, and we are very interested in REFA'EL's Popeye missile. We will discuss the inclusion of a British partner in its production only when we decide that we would like to purchase the missile," Rifkind said yesterday at the conclusion of his visit to Israel, which was the first by a British secretary of defense.

Rifkind toured IDF [Israel Defense Forces] bases and defense industries facilities, including those of REFA'EL, where he received explanations on Popeye's performance. [passage omitted]

Direct Mail Service Renewed With Morocco

TA2610085494 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Oct 94 p 5

[Report by Judy Siegel]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Two-way direct mail service between Israel and Morocco will be renewed today, 35 years after it was halted.

Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni yesterday sent a letter to Morocco's King Hassan, thanking him for assenting to Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' request last week that postal links between the two countries be restored.

The service will include regular mail, express mail, and telegrams. Money transfers between the two countries will be available if there is enough public interest in Morocco. There remains a strong Jewish community in Morocco.

In her letter, Aloni said the renewal of postal ties symbolized a "new era of closeness between peoples and cultures that will bring about unified creative energies and minds in the fields of culture, art and business."

May the Jordan-Israel peace agreement, she continued, usher in an era of peace with all Israel's neighbors, "so we may enter the 21st Century armed with the treasures of science and communication for every man."

IDF Reports 'Terrorists' Fired 'Upgraded Mortars'

TA2610141394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The north of Israel is quiet now. IDF [Israel Defense Forces] bomb disposal experts confirmed that the shells that fell in the security zone today were fired from upgraded mortars. Our correspondent in the north Yo'av Aviv reports that the terrorists began using this type of mortars some six months ago, and that their range is 9 km.

Army Searches for Settler After Kidnapping Report

NC2610223394 Paris AFP in English 2214 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Jerusalem, Oct 26 (AFP)—The Israeli army launched a search in the north of the occupied West Bank Wednesday [26 October] after a witness reported seeing a settler being kidnapped by Palestinians, military officials said.

A woman living at the Ariel Jewish settlement near Nablus told authorities she saw Palestinians forcing a religious Jew into their car, registered in the occupied territories, the sources said.

The army was unable to confirm the kidnapping.

An Israeli soldier kidnapped near Tel Aviv on October 9 by Hamas militants was killed by the kidnappers five days later when Israeli troops stormed their hideout.

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Senate President Welcomes Clinton to Parliament

JN2610204994 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1927 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Speech by Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi at Parliament session attended by U.S. President Bill Clinton in Amman—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Your Majesty King Husayn, Your Excellency President Bill Clinton:

On behalf of my colleagues the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, it honors me to welcome Your Majesty and Jordan's great guest, President Bill Clinton, President of the United States of America, to the Jordanian Parliament.

Your Excellency the President: Truly, it is a great day and a memorable occasion for Your Excellency to be the first president of a foreign state to address the Jordanian Parliament. You are also the first U.S. President to address an Arab parliament. Therefore, we have great respect and esteem for your presence and for the great U.S. people. This is also undeniable testimony to all that unites us. Our two countries are bound by relations of friendship that have flourished over approximately half a century. This friendship has become deeply embedded on solid foundations of common principles, particularly the principles of freedom, democracy, pluralism, and human rights. From the premise of this deep friendship and common values, permit me to welcome Your Excellency among us.

Mr. President: His Majesty's ceaseless and persistent efforts over the past four decades have been crowned with success today. Today, his majesty, our king, bestowed on his people the gift of peace. [applause]

This gift is invaluable. The most noble thing that the sons of the Jordanian people can present to their dear king, out of gratitude, is their pledge to his majesty to continue their serious work, their genuine affiliation, and their deep loyalty.

Your Excellency the President: The Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty could not have been achieved without your support, backing, and understanding. The United States' commitment to acting as a full partner to the peace process has been a major factor in achieving peace, of which we were deprived for 46 years.

Your Excellency the President: Out of our appreciation for your commitment and support for the peace process, which has born fruit as a result of our joint efforts, we are expressing to you our sincere thanks and gratitude. [applause]

Your Excellency the President: We are now entering a new phase in which we will move from a state of war to a state of peace, from a state of fears and threats to a state of hope and development, from a state of hostility and suspicion to a state of good neighborliness and confidence, and from a state of barriers and isolation to a state of openness and cooperation.

We greatly hope that the United States will continue to support us in order to achieve these noble objectives, exactly as it supported us in achieving the peace we have long awaited.

Esteemed Senators and Deputies: It is an honor for me to introduce to you President Bill Clinton, President of the United States of America. [applause]

Clinton's Address Reported

JN2710091094 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 Oct 94 pp 1, 7

[Report by P.V. Vivekanand with contributions by Samir Barhum]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman—U.S. President Bill Clinton on Wednesday [26 October] resoundingly affirmed his country's support for Jordan and pledged that Washington would actively seek means to increase trade and economic cooperation with the Kingdom.

President Clinton, addressing a joint session of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, also promised to meet Jordan's legitimate defence requirements.

Mr. Clinton, the first American President to address an Arab parliament and the first foreign head of state to appear before the Jordanian legislature, also announced a U.S. contribution of $75 million to set up a regional investment bank to encourage American investment in projects like those envisaged in the Jordan Rift Valley. The establishment of the bank with a proposed capital of $10 billion is expected to be discussed at next week's Middle East–orth Africa economic summit to be held in Casablanca, Morocco.

The U.S. President, who witnessed the signing of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty in the Wadi al-'Arabah desert earlier in the day, declared: "Those who take risks for peace must not stand alone. We will work with Jordan to meet your legitimate defence requirements and give you the security you deserve."

Mr. Clinton, the eighth U.S. President that His Majesty King Husayn has dealt with, recalled that former President Dwight Eisenhower had promised the King 35 years ago that the U.S. would stand behind Jordan.

Quoting Eisenhower, President Clinton said: "Our country knows what you have done. Believe me, we won't let you down. Both of us, Jordan and America, are fighting the same battle."

"Today that is the struggle for peace," said Mr. Clinton in his 20-minute speech to the session, which was not attended by 18 deputies representing groups that oppose

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the peace process. "And I say again on behalf of the U.S., the U.S. will not let you down."

Often interrupted by loud applause from the packed galleries of the domed parliament house in the heart of Amman, President Clinton paid tribute to King Husayn, who attended the parliament address, for sending "a signal to the entire Arab world that peace is unstoppable...and meeting the challenge of history and advancing the cause of peace throughout the Arab World."

Addressing the people of Jordan, Mr. Clinton, who flew to al-'Aqabah from Cairo early Wednesday to attend the signing ceremony, said: "The U.S. admires and supports the choice you have made and we will stand with you in the months and years ahead."

The President, who was spending the night in Amman before flying on to Damascus for talks with Syrian President Hafiz Al-Asad in a bid to break the logjam in the Syrian-Israeli track on negotiations, also paid tribute to the democratisation of Jordan.

"...In the midst of hard times and conflict, you are building a society devoted to the growth of pluralism and openness," he said and referred to the Kingdom's hosting of refugees.

"You have established a parliament where all voices could be heard...your nation's commitment to pluralism has been matched by a remarkable generosity of spirit, you have opened your door to millions of your Arab brethren and they have come here year after year seeking refuge in your nation and they have found a true home."

Addressing the gathering, which included Her Majesty Queen Nur, many members of the Royal family and U.S. First Lady Hillary Clinton, President Clinton noted that peace could not stand long without "tangible improvement of the quality of ordinary citizens' lives."

"If poverty persists then the purveyors of fear will find fertile ground." he said.

"The U.S. understands the need to produce real benefits and we are taking steps to meet that goal," he said, noting that his administration was writing off ali of Jordan's government debts to the U.S. and had encouraged the Kingdom's other creditors to do the same.

In the same context, the President noted that the Jordanian-American-Israeli committee was working on investments to develop energy, water and tourism projects in the Jordan Valley.

The U.S. will also consider other measures, including a bilateral investment treaty with Jordan, he sai J.

Turning to extremism in the region often painted in the West as part of Islam, the president said the United States respects Islam "as one of the great religions in this cradle of civilisations."

"There are those who insist that between America and the Middle East there are impassable religious and other obstacles to harmony, (and) that our beliefs in our cultures must somehow inevitably clash. But I believe they are wrong. America refuses to accept that our civilisations must collide."

He let off a strong broadside salvo against fanatics and extremists "who cloak themselves in the rhetoric of religion and nationalism," and said: "They stoke the fire of violence and seek to destroy the progress of peace."

"To them, I say: You will not succeed, you cannot succeed, you are the past, not the future."

"The people of Jordan on this day, through His Majesty King Husayn, have pledged themselves to a treaty based on a fundamental law of humanity, that what we have in common is more important than our differences," he said.

Asserting that Moses and the Prophet Muhammad essentially carried the message of coexistence among peoples, the President quoted the Prophet as telling other faiths: "There is no argument between us and you, God shall bring us together and unto Him is the homecoming."

"Today, the people of Jordan and the people of Israel have reached across the River Jordan," Mr. Clinton said. "They have chosen life, they have made a homecoming."

"And tonight we say thanks be to God." he added, closing his speech with "Alhamdu-lillah" to a standing ovation.

At the outset of the session, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad al-Lawzi welcomed Mr. Clinton to the legislature and paid tribute to his very decision to address the Jordanian assembly.

"In addition, this is a clear testimony to what brings us together. Our two countries are linked by friendship that has prospered of over almost half a century, and this friendship was enhanced on a solid basis of common principles, especially the principles of freedom, democracy, pluralism and human rights," Mr. al-Lawzi said.

"Today, the continued efforts of His Majesty were crowned with success. Today our King has presented to his people the gift of peace, an invaluable gift. And the most sublime [thing] that the people of Jordan offer their dear King in gratitude is a pledge to His Majesty to continue hard work and to maintain true feelings of belonging and profound allegiance," Mr. al-Lawzi added.

The Senate speaker said the peace treaty would not have been concluded without Mrs. Clinton's support. [as published]

Later Wednesday, King Husayn and Queen Nur hosted a dinner banquet in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton.

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King Husayn also conferred upon President Clinton the Medal of King Husayn Bin-Ali Sash of the First Order. King Husayn also conferred upon Mrs. Clinton al-Nahdah Medal of the First Order.

Al-'Anani on Treaty Signing, New Ties With Israel

NC2610110094 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0610 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Telephone interview with Information Minister Jawad al-'Anani, in Amman, by Fawzi al-Jundi, in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Al-Jundi] Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, we welcome you as our guest on the Voice of the Arabs.

[Al-'Anani] Thank you.

[Al-Jundi] Minister, after the final signing of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, could we deduce that Jordanian-Israeli conflicts have ended forever?

[Al-'Anani] We cannot claim this in any final way. The reason is that there are many agreements over which we will be negotiating after signing the peace treaty, such as bilateral agreements in the economic and other cooperation sectors. Negotiations will basically continue over these points. Jordan, which has decided to keep the issue of refugees alive, cannot discuss this subject now until after negotiations on this topic start in the final stages of the Palestinian track. This subject must be discussed again. We defined the bases we have adopted in the agenda but we still need extensive talks. This is the situation with regard to the quadripartite committee over which agreement was reached in the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles. The Declaration called for forming a quadripartite committee consisting of Jordan, Egypt, the Palestinians, and Israel to discuss the subject of the displaced people who left the Arab Palestinian occupied territories in 1967. There will still be issues for discussion.

[Al-Jundi] Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, some observers believe that while the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty has retrieved water and land for Jordan, it has created problems for Jordan in its relations with the Palestinians and Syria.

[Al-'Anani] I do not believe the treaty is the reason for that. And I do not believe that the conflicts the brothers in Syria and the PLO have been referring to have anything to do with relations between these two peoples and ourselves. They are points of conflict and interpretations of specific and clear points. The first point concerns what has been termed the lease of Jordanian territory. There has been no leasing of territory. There is an area of under 2 square km, where some Israelis have private ownership. These people have been allowed to use this land under full Jordanian supervision. Syria had a very specific point of view regarding this issue so that it does not constitute a precedent that could be applied in the Golan Heights. We believe the concept of sovereignty is a very broad concept, starting at one end with the evacuation of Israeli soldiers through the freedom of movement and activity on the land that has been vacated. We believe that Jordan has realized all these issues and has absolute freedom over the territories it has retrieved without restrictions or conditions. This is the precedent that must be highlighted as important. We should not look at a very minor issue and turn it into a basic point of difference.

As regards the Palestinian side, we have clearly explained our stance regarding the holy places in the city of Jerusalem. Jordan cannot concede religious custodianship of these places except to someone who can assume power over them. The Palestinians, in the circumstances, and I mean the Palestine National Council, are in no position to assume custodianship of these places. If we do abandon our custodianship, we would be creating a vacuum that some Israeli sides would infiltrate, particularly those sides that support the annexation of the whole of Jerusalem, including the holy places inside the Old City walls. This is a historic responsibility and we must view it from this perspective.

[Al-Jundi] Since you have touched on the issue of Jerusalem, does Jordanian religious custodianship over Jerusalem, as formulated in the Washington Declaration signed between Jordan and Israel, stipulate that Jordan should participate in the final stage of negotiations on Jerusalem, which are expected to take place in the next two years between Jordan and Israel?

[Al-'Anani] Not at all. The text says that when negotiations take place on the final status of the city of Jerusalem, Jordanian religious custodianship over Jerusalem, which is currently being applied, will be reconsidered. We wanted this particular formulation so that no vacuum would be created when custodianship over Jerusalem is transferred from Jordan to the Palestinians, when they can assume this custodianship fully and freely. We support this Palestinian demand fully.

[Al-Jundi] Once the Palestinians started secret negotiations with the Israeli side away from the Madrid peace framework, Jordan succeeded, within three months, in signing the Washington Declaration and initialing the peace treaty. Now Jordan is signing the peace treaty in its final form. Could we say that this swift and surprising Jordanian success is the result of Jordanian planning? Or were the Jordanian-Israeli problems simple problems that cannot be compared with the problems on the other tracks?

[Al-'Anani] We believe that all the Arab tracks are interlinked. I can sign a peace treaty with Israel but this does not mean I agree with their views regarding Palestinian rights. On the contrary, Jordan is asking that the Palestinians be treated in accordance with the UN resolutions, the Geneva Convention, and rules on the treatment of prisoners. Jordan stresses the need to lift the

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siege of the Palestinians, not to use indiscriminate economic measures, and many other points. The Palestinian people are part of us and we understand their needs and circumstances. We believe the Palestinian dimension constitutes the cornerstone of the Middle East conflict. Without a solution to the Palestinian problem, there cannot be a permanent and just peace. But we also believe that having separated into four different tracks and with the concept of comprehensiveness no longer proving a point of issue, as happened at the beginning of negotiations when everyone wanted to see a comprehensive peace, Jordan could regain its sovereign rights pertaining to it, that is, to negotiate for itself. As for the Palestinian rights, Jordan supports them but does not negotiate on them. The Palestinian side negotiates these rights for itself. It was they who asked to be given this responsibility through Arab consensus, which started with the Rabat conference in 1974. This issue was raised again when Jordan announced the disengagement of administrative and legal ties with the West Bank in 1988. It was again reconfirmed when Jordan decided to apply a disengagement of legal and administrative ties with regard to awqaf, with the exception of Jerusalem and the holy places in that city. All these issues confirm that political change was putting on pressure to allow the Palestinian people to assume direct responsibility for their Palestinian issues and that Jordan and the rest of the Arab countries support the Palestinian stance to the utmost.

Therefore I believe the Syrian track will sign an agreement when the basic Syrian rights are retrieved and Israel withdraws from the Golan Heights. The same happened with Egypt in 1979 and the same will happen with Lebanon if an agreement is reached on Resolution 247 or Resolution 425, which applies to Lebanon. But this does not mean that all the Palestinian problems will be solved, because, as a result of an agreement between the Palestinians and the Israelis in the Declaration of Principles and other agreements, they decided to postpone discussion of the four critical topics pertaining to the refugees, borders, settlements, and Jerusalem.

We believe that international conditions could not allow Jordan to wait five or seven years before signing a peace treaty. This is the time that might be needed for negotiations on the Palestinian track. I do not see the Syrian side waiting until the Palestinian side finalizes a settlement of all pending issues between it and Israel. We should not concentrate on the Jordanian side and whether its issues were easy, simple, or complicated. The issue is that through negotiations with the Israeli side we agreed on the basic rights that enabled us to sign an agreement with it at this stage. This is what happened.

[Al-Jundi] Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, the Voice of the Arabs thanks you for this conversation with us from the Jordanian capital, Amman.

[Al-'Anani] Thank you and God be with you.

Al-'Anani Queried on Treaty, Palestinian Ties

JN2110205794 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1806 GMT 21 Oct 94

[Interview with Information Minister Dr. Jawad al-'Anani by Salim Badawi from "The Event" feature; place and date not given—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] [Badawi] The Palestinian leadership is serious in voicing its concern and apprehension over Jerusalem and President Yasir 'Arafat invited not only Yitzhaq Rabin but also King Husayn to recognize, as of now, that Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine. Are these Palestinian apprehensions justified?

[Al-'Anani] I do not believe so. First, there are no provisions in the draft treaty between Jordan and Israel that violate the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles which was concluded on 13 September 1993.

The Jordanian stand on this issue is very clear and frank. Since 1967, we have had custodianship over the holy shrines, a religious custodianship. Jordan will hand over this custodianship to the Palestinians once they have regained Jerusalem and are able to carry out this task instead of Jordan. Jordan will then hand it over to them. But, we cannot hand it over at the present time, that is give up the custodianship as we did in the other West Bank areas in a cabinet decision approximately one month ago. We cannot do the same thing for Jerusalem unless we ascertain that the Palestinians will be allowed under an agreement between them and Israel to exercise this role over the Islamic holy places. [passage omitted]

[Badawi] What is your reply to the Palestinian command's referring what it views as the dispute with you on the shrines or the supervision over the Islamic shrines in Jerusalem to the United Nations?

[Al-'Anani] They are free to do what they want and in the manner they believe appropriate. However, we know that Palestinian delegations came to Jordan more than once to discuss this issue with us. Before doing this, they should have sent an envoy to seek clarification on what is intended from this decision. If they become convinced, then this will be a good thing. If not, then they will have the choice to do what they want. I believe they were hasty in making such a decision.

[Badawi] Then you suggest seeking a compromise solution through direct negotiations with Palestinians?

[Al-'Anani] In our viewpoint, there is no dispute. There is the issue of clarifying our stand. [passage omitted]

[Badawi] My last question Mr. Minister, how do you explain the Syrian stand which views the idea of leasing lands as a dangerous precedent?

[Al-'Anani] We must keep in mind that each track has its own traits. Each track has its own circumstances. We cannot say that there is a dangerous precedent in Jordan that will apply to the Golan Heights. The Israelis had no

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assets [as heard] on the Golan Heights. That's why sir, the issue is completely different here. In the Syrian-Israeli agenda, there is no mention, for example, of the issue of water. There is no discussion of other complicated issues. The Jordanian-Israeli agenda contained many complicated topics. We see that the Syrian negotiator continues to find it difficult to reach a solution with the Israeli negotiator on important issues such as environment, withdrawal, disarmament on the Golan, and issues to do with monitoring that the Israeli side suggests or demands. We know that all these issues are complicated, but the point that should be viewed as a precedent is not that of leasing or not leasing but that of withdrawal from territories that Israel occupied. This is the basis that should be emphasized. I believe that the only precedent which could be described as such is that Israel ultimately is ready to withdraw from all of the occupied Arab territories and to have them return to Arab sovereignty as was the case before 1967. This is the basic point that should be emphasized and not the highlighting of details on small areas that do not exceed 2.5 or 3 square km and blowing the issue out of proportion, thus forgetting the major signs that resulted from the draft peace treaty between Jordan and Israel.

[Badawi] This is your reply to the Syrian stand?

[Al-'Anani] Yes, Sir.

[Badawi] Thank you, Your Excellency Minister Jawad al-'Anani.

Al-'Anani: We Will Deal With 'Terrorist' Elements

TA2610094194 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Oct 94 p A1

[Interview with Information Minister Dr. Jawad al-'Anani by Gay Bekhor at the site of the signing ceremony of the Israel-Jordan peace treaty in the 'Arava on 25 October]

[FBIS Translated Text] "There are elements who would like to disrupt the peace and security, but we will deal with them. We have voiced our determined position against terror more than once," Jordanian Information Minister Dr. Jawad al-'Anani stated yesterday in an interview with HA'ARETZ. He added that Jordan considers the PLO the exclusive representative of the Palestinian people.

[Bekhor] Hundreds of Jordanians in Amman demonstrated against the peace treaty with Israel and even burned an Israeli flag. Do you think the Jordanian street is ready for peace?

[Al-'Anani] The speech delivered today by His Excellency King Husayn proves that the Jordanian street is definitely ready for the peace with Israel and for a new future in the region. In Jordan, however, as in any democratic country, there is an opposition. There are Palestinian refugees who think that their problem has been struck off the agenda, but in general the Jordanian people are glad and pleased about the peace. The opposition in Jordan abides by the law and the constitution. Nevertheless, the position of the majority must be remembered at all times.

[Bekhor] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat made harsh pronouncements against Jordan and its claim to guardianship of the Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem. The PLO and Jordan are also at odds over the appointment of the mufti of Jerusalem. Are relations between Jordan and the Palestinians deteriorating?

[Al-'Anani] The issue in dispute is not Jerusalem, but guardianship of the holy sites. That is the dispute, and there is no need to blow it out of proportion. Jordan's position on the matter is well known: Jordan has priority with regard to the guardianship of the holy sites in Jerusalem. As for the mufti's appointment, we may very well settle the problem.

[Bekhor] Do you think 'Arafat should have been invited to the signing ceremony of the peace treaty in the 'Arava?

[Al-'Anani] I do not want to go into that question. Invitations were sent to several members of the Palestinian Authority, and I believe they will send the charge d'affaires in the Palestinian Embassy in Amman to the ceremony.

[Bekhor] How do you square the fact that at a time when an Israeli-Jordanian agreement is being signed Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] sits in the heart of Amman and welcomes the lethal terrorist attack in Tel Aviv?

[Al-'Anani] That attack grieved us, and I even denounced it. We also asserted our unequivocal position that we will act against terror. We also stated that nobody but the PLO will speak for the Palestinians.

Opposition Figures, Parties Cited on Treaty

JN2110115894 Amman SHIHAN in Arabic 22-28 Oct 94 pp 12, 13

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In a step described by observers as the upheaval of the current phase, Jordan last week initialed a draft peace treaty with Israel. Those who oppose the treaty say that it constitutes a Jordanian concession that has harmed joint Arab action in general. Those who support the treaty described it as a timely and courageous leap forward. [passage omitted]

Local reactions to the treaty were greatly varied. While the majority of the Jordanian people, which is not politicized, blessed and supported the step; the Islamic, pan-Arabist, and leftist parties denounced the treaty and used unusually threatening words, something observers described as the beginning of a sharp confrontation between the government and the opposition.

Whereas the centrist parties expressed silent approval of the treaty, the rejectionist parties have so far not taken

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any tangible action against the treaty and were satisfied with issuing strongly worded, unfamiliar statements. Some of these statements clearly called for jihad against the treaty.

In a statement on the initialing of the peace treaty with the Jewish enemy, the Muslim Brotherhood said it regarded the treaty as catastrophic for all the noble citizens, particularly the sons and relatives of the martyrs in Palestine. The statement reiterated the Brotherhood's rejection of this treaty and all like agreements, and of any peace that contradicts the liberation of Palestine, which the statement said will always remain the Palestine of history, now and in the future. The statement said that the treaty is regarded as backing the Zionist terrorist policy in Palestine, the policy of realizing the Greater Israel of which Ben-Gurion said: "We will occupy the entire Arab territory either by the tank or by the tractor."

In conclusion, the Brotherhood appealed to the people, parties, organizations, and the nation's deputies to shoulder their responsibilities in rejecting this agreement and supporting the march of Jihad in Palestine, and called for considering the 17th of each month a sad and black day, just like all the other agreements and treaties and recognitions. Invoking Koranic verses in the struggle with the Jews, the Brotherhood emphasized its stand of rejecting all forms of capitulation and resisting all forms of normalization and Judaization.

The Islamic Action Front [IAF] issued a statement in which it stressed that Jihad is the only choice to liberate Palestine and the occupied Arab territories, pointing out that Palestine, from the [Mediterranean] sea to the [Jordan] River is a prohibited Islamic territory and nobody can concede any part of it.

The statement said that the agreement, which was signed without any consideration for the nation's faith and firm principles and without any respect for the people's representatives and nationalist parties, is regarded as a move to bypass all constant principles and red lines, noting that receiving Rabin in Amman ignored the feelings and dignity of the people who felt that the killers of the people and the commanders of massacres have desecrated our country.

Former deputy Layth Shubaylat [president of the Jordanian Engineers Association] issued a statement in which he said that the Islamic nation has not seen a sadder or blacker day since its Hashemite prophet brought it into the world to be a leader of the Arabs and Muslims. Shubaylat said that not only has the nation's territory been occupied as in the past, but its cultural character, mind, and conscience are being invaded from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arabian Gulf. [passage omitted]

Chemist Taysir al-Humsi, secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party considered the treaty a disaster for the Arab nation. Al- Humsi told SHIHAN that this is a black day whose nightmare will not disappear until we bury this treaty, which is a comprehensive treaty for the so-called peace with Israel, despite the use of the term initialing used in describing the signing of it. [passage omitted]

Al-Humsi wondered about the reason for the speed in reaching this treaty and said the reason can be understood only if we consider that Iraq is intended to watch the international forces that are tightening the noose around it to weaken it and starve its people.

Al-Humsi said that nobody has the right to lease Arab territory to anyone, even if they are not our archenemy, Zionism.

IAF official spokesman, Deputy Hamzah Mansur, emphasized the IAF's firm stand rejecting negotiations with the Zionist enemy. He regarded the treaty as a deviation from Jordan's official pledge, which the government made through the prime minister, who had said that no agreements would be signed until coordination and consultations were made with all the participating Arab sides, in addition to the fact that Jordan then was adhering to constant principles such as Jerusalem, the Palestinian cause, and the refugees.

In an exclusive statement to SHIHAN, Mansur said the treaty is not in harmony with our people's creed and interests nor is it in harmony with the Islamic Jordanian spirit or the principles on which we were brought up. Therefore, we reject this shameful treaty and we will work to abort it with the help of God and our sincere people.

Answering a question on the front's stand and intentions regarding Clinton's visit to Jordan and what the deputies would do if he asked to enter Parliament, Mansur said: We do not welcome Clinton on this occasion. Had his visit been ordinary, we would have welcomed him just like any other head of state. At this time, his crimes against our people stand clear for every one to see. Therefore, we not only do not welcome him but we tell him that he is absolutely unwelcome. [passage omitted]

Deputy 'Isa Madanat, secretary general of the Jordanian Democratic Socialist Party, said that he opposes the unofficial version of the treaty that was initialed by Jordan and Israel and published in the press, noting that we have not regained any of our rights to our territory and lost our rights to water.

Madanat pointed out that none of the issues that were listed on the Jordanian agenda presented in October last year have been crystallized in terms of regaining our rights, and that the resolutions of international legitimacy have not been applied to the issues of refugees and displaced persons.

Madanat said that he was not calling for throwing the Jews into the sea or looking for absolute justice but is calling for realizing legitimate rights.

Deputy Hammam Sa'id rejected the treaty in part and parcel saying that it means the selling out of Palestine.

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For his part, 'Ali Farid al-Sa'd, secretary general of the Progress and Justice Party, said that he support's his majesty's decision under the strategic pan-Arab constants.

Opponents of Peace Accord Escalate Verbal Attacks

JN2610120594 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Oct 94 p 16

[Report by Samir Bahum]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman—The Muslim Brotherhood and its political wing in parliament, the Islamic Action Front (IAF), yesterday stepped up their activities protesting the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty which will be signed today.

Islamic activists staged two demonstrations at the University of Jordan and in downtown Amman, held a public rally in the centre of the capital and a press conference and spearheaded a sit-in staged by political parties opposing the peace process in front of the Prime Ministry building on Jabal Amman to protest the treaty.

The downtown rally, attended by an estimated 2,000 people, took place despite calls by the Ministry of Interior on the Muslim Brotherhood to cancel it, Lower House of Parliament Deputy and IAF member 'Abd-al-Rahim al-'Ukur said.

Mr. al-Ukour told the JORDAN TIMES that the Brotherhood insisted on holding the rally. "Just as the government has its responsibilities towards the country, so does the Muslim Brotherhood," he said.

Still, the one-hour rally, which heard addresses by three prominent Brotherhood members and was attended by hundreds of mostly bearded men in the usually crowded downtown Hashimiyah Plaza, ended peacefully without any incidents, with the speakers repeatedly asking the gathering to remain calm and to disperse quietly after the rally was over, praising the role of security men present at the site.

The first speaker, Deputy Hammam Sa'id, urged the public to resist the treaty and reject its provisions and consequences, namely normalising relations with Israel.

Dr. Sa'id said the treaty was but a continuation of "the shame of Madrid (where the peace process was launched in 1991), Oslo, Cairo and Washington" where the ensuring agreements between Arab parties and Israel were negotiated and reached.

He said Wadi al-'Arabah, the site of Wednesday's signing ceremony of the treaty on the southern Jordanian-Israeli border, will witness another chapter of setbacks, and the turning of another leaf of what he called "sin, injustice and aggression."

Wednesday, he said, will witness ceremonies marking the giving up of Palestine, "with all its cities, villages holy city and Al-Aqsa (Mosque), to the strangers."

"Tomorrow, they will commit something that would almost shake heavens above... it will witness a sinful scene on a blessed land. Tomorrow, they want to turn the leaf of Palestine to benefit strangers. Tomorrow there will be no more Yafo, no Haifa, no more Palestine on the map," Dr. Sa'id charged.

He denounced the treaty, saying it first and foremost recognises the usurping Jewish state and provides for protecting Israel's security and considers it a respected neighbourly state.

Furthermore, the hardline Islamist said the treaty gives "the criminal Jews the right to lasting security and peace," and prevents future unity between Jordan and any other Arab country.

He continued that the treaty will also keep Jordan busy defending the Jews in the face of jihad (holy Islamic war) movements seeking to liberate Palestine and exempting the Israelis of the responsibility of driving four million Palestinians out of their lands, and thus keeping the issue of refugees and displaced Palestinians to the multilateral talks.

He cited several fatwas (Islamic rulings) banning any reconciliation with the "usurping Jews" and giving up any inch of the Jordanian and Palestinian lands, asserting that "Jihad was the only means to liberate the occupied lands and countering aggressions," he said.

Another address was delivered by the recently-elected leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, Abd al-Majid Dhunaybat, who also renounced the treaty, saying it wastes the rights of the Islamic nation.

Describing Jews as "the killers of prophets" and declaring that the struggle with Israel was everlasting, he said the Brotherhood "will do its utmost to uncover the conspiracies and plots by Israel and do everything possible to prevent it from breaking "psychological barriers" in the way to normalising relations with Arab countries.

The organisers of the rally distributed a statement denouncing the treaty, saying it took the Brotherhood by surprise. "In a questionable acceleration of events and contrary to what the official media used to reiterate, the peace treaty between the Jordanian Government and the state of the Jews will be signed ... enabling the Jews to achieve what they failed to do over centuries...."

The statement attacked U.S. President Bill Clinton saying his visit to Jordan and the region is the crowning of the peace process.

"The visit by the president of the country of arrogance and injutice to our country and his sharing with the Jewish enemy its joy over achieving its dreams and

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aspirations is the crowning of a major Jewish victory over us," the statement read.

Earlier in the day, about 300 University of Jordan students staged a 30-minute demonstration to protest the treaty. Mainly Islamist students participated in the demonstration. On Monday a similar protest took place on cmapus with demonstrators burning the U.S. and Israeli flags.

Also Tuesday, IAF deputies held a press conference to clarify their stand on the treaty and called on the government to back off in its stand.

Also Tuesday, IAF deputies held a press conference to clarify their stand on the treaty and called on the government to back off in its stand.

The Islamist deputies announced that they will boycott Mr. Clinton's address to the Jordanian parliament on Wednesday.

The IAF spokesman, Deputy Hamzah Mansur, said the IAF will persist in its stand in opposing the peace treaty even if it is approved by 63 deputies, stressing that the treaty contradicts the principles of Islam and the front's political stands.

"If we fail to bring the treaty to a halt through parliament, we will use all available democratic and popular means to do so," he said.

The Jordan News Agency, PETRA, reported that a sit-in was staged yesterday in front of the Prime Ministry building by political parties opposed to the peace treaty.

Mr. Mansour, who was also present, read out a statement by the eight voicing their rejection of the treaty and demanding that opposition to it be expressed in a democratic way and responsible manner to protect the security and safety of the kingdom and its national unity.

Also Tuesday, the centrist Al-Watan (homeland) party, which is led by former minister Akef al-Fayez, published an advertisement in Al-Ra'y Arabic daily expressing reservations about the treaty and what it termed as its shortcomings.

The party said leasing Jordanian land to Israel contravenes the most basic Arab and Islamic principles.

It voiced objections to treaty provisions on water, security, public freedoms and refugees and requested the government to revise the draft treaty.

The tone of the paid advertisement surprised observers since most of them thought the mainstream, loyal Jordanian party would be among the first to endorse the treaty.

Trade Unions Organize Protests Against Treaty

NC2610141594 Paris AFP in English 1336 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman, Oct 26 (AFP)—Jordanian trade unions gathered here Wednesday [26 October] to organise a series of demonstrations and other measures to protest against the signing of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel.

Their meeting came as US President Bill Clinton arrived at the Red Sea resort of al-'Aqabah in southern Jordan to take part in the signing ceremony of the historic treaty which ends 46 years of hostilities between Israel and Jordan.

Black flags were draped across the length of the trade union building in Amman as well as streamers with the message: "Clinton, son of Bush Out, out."

Other banners read: "There can be no peace with the criminal Jews."

On Tuesday around 2,000 Jordanians took to the streets here to protest the treaty while the minority Islamic fundamentalist bloc in parliament denounced it as humiliating.

The Islamic Action Front, which has 16 seats in the 80-seat assembly, urged the government to renounce the treaty and said it would boycott Clinton's speech before parliament later Wednesday.

"We are planning a march after noon prayers on Friday in al-Zarka, Jordan's second capital, and another one Sunday from the Al-Husayn Mosque in downtown Amman to Al-Hashimiyah royal palace," said trade union member 'Abdallah Hammud.

Hammud made the remarks to reporters as he went into a meeting of the trade unions which group around 70,000 members.

It was not immediately clear if the 12 trade unions were to join the protest or whether the authorities will allow the demonstrations.

Kamal Nasir, head of the bar association, said trade unionists were also examining plans to hold political rallies in Amman and Irbid, 88 kilometers (54 miles) north of the Jordanian capital.

The head of the doctors' union, Ishaq Maraqah, a Jordanian of Palestinian origin, dismissed the treaty with Israel and Jordan signed at the Wadi al-'Arabah border post as "superficial."

But he stressed that opponents of the treaty would use "democratic means not violence" to fight back.

"No one can force us to love somebody who hates us, who killed our people, who live in our homes," Maraqah said. "How can we shake hands with someone who considers that we are not human beings?"

Maraqah charged that the treaty has failed to contribute to a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East because "they (the Israelis) are not intending to give their rights to the Palestinians who are at the core of the problem."

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"They have put (PLO chairman) Yasir 'Arafat in a cage and closed the door," Maraqah said.

"The United States carries the full responsibility for neglecting UN Security Council resolutions and Palestinian rights," he added.

Palestinians of the occupied West Bank went on strike and held a "day of mourning" on Wednesday to protest the signing of the treaty.

King Husayn has the backing of most parliamentary deputies who are to start discussing the treaty Saturday for ratification.

"Those who oppose the treaty are (mentally) retarded. We were not in a state of war and we were not in a state of peace. Something had to be done and peace is better than war," said Haytham, a taxi driver of Palestinian origin.

In the centre of Amman shopkeepers and people in cafes followed King Husayn's speech at the signing ceremony on television sets, while others were glued to their radios.

Applause broke out when the king stepped up to make his speech at the signing ceremony at the Araba crossing between his country and Israel, pledging to create a "valley of peace."

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Information Minister on Clinton's 'Historic' Visit

NC2610132994 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] After meeting President Ilyas al-Hirawi, Information Minister Michel Samahah told reporters he received instructions from President al-Hirawi regarding the reorganization of the Information Ministry. On U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to the region, Samahah said the visit comes within the framework of a close follow-up of the negotiating process to reach a fair and comprehensive peace. He said:

[Begin Samahah recording] I consulted with His Excellency President Ilyas al-Hirawi and briefed him on the reorganization of the Information Ministry and received his instructions. [passage omitted]

Regarding President Clinton's visit to the region, it must be said that this step is a historic and important one by the U.S. sponsor of the peace negotiations in the region. But the basis of negotiations to reach peace must not be regional [qutriyah]. The issue of peace is not one of decisions made by individual regional countries to reach separate peace. The Lebanese and Syrian stance seeks to preserve Lebanese and Syrian rights and Arab rights to reach a fair and comprehensive peace. This is the real and basic avenue to establish a permanent peace in the region. From this premise, President Clinton's visit to Damascus tomorrow is in my view a major stop for consultation on this framework. This visit, as U.S. officials said, represents recognition that Syria is the door to real and final peace. This represents recognition of the Syrian role in the close follow-up of the negotiating process to restore Arab rights and establish a fair and comprehensive peace. We are accustomed to seeing President al-Asad as a pan-Arab bastion [word indistinct] every peace track, even those seeking separate solutions. These days we can see the negative results of these separate solutions and fragmentation in these countries as a result of unilateral solutions. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Fadlallah Comments on Clinton's Visit to Region

NC2710080294 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Ayatollah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has stated that U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to the region is designed to give a boost to the Jordanian-Israeli agreement, to exert indirect pressure on Syria and Lebanon, and to encourage the Arab states to open up to Israel in the fields of economics, politics, and security [words indistinct].

Fadlallah said the United States is putting pressure [word indistinct] to impose a settlement in one way or another because the Arab-Israeli conflict is important for the election campaigns in the United States and the usurping entity.

Fadlallah noted that the United States has started a declared war against Hizballah and the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, because they oppose the U.S.-Zionist peace.

Fadlallah said the United States is protecting Israel against any pressure and is seeking concessions from the Arabs because it wants the settlement to be at the expense of the Arabs and not Israel. [words indistinct]

Shams-al-Din Calls On Clinton To Heed al-Asad

NC2610064494 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams-al-Din chairman of the Higher Islamic Shiite Council, has expressed his hope that U.S. President Bill Clinton will receive with an open mind the facts that he will hear from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. He called on the U.S. Administration not to view the problem in terms of establishing economic enterprises. He said that promises are not sufficient; these issues cannot be addressed through financial or economic means but with justice. He said that President Clinton should listen with open Christian heart to President al-Asad, noting that a so-called comprehensive peace is not the same as this piecemeal peace. He stressed the need for total Israeli withdrawal and the implementation of Security Council Resolution 425.

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Al-Asad, Clinton Begin Meetings in Damascus

JN2710110494 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. President Bill Clinton started with a private meeting held at People's Palace at 0915 today.

The two presidents then continued the talks at an expanded meeting in the Meeting Hall of the People's Palace. This meeting was attended on the Syrian side by Dr. 'Abd-al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, head of the National Security Bureau; Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'; Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian Arab delegation to the peace talks; and Walid al-Mu'allim, Syria's ambassador in Washington.

On the U.S. side, the meeting was attended by Secretary of State Warren Christopher; Anthony Lake, assistant to the President for national security affairs; Dennis Ross, the U.S. coordinator for the peace process; Martin Indyk, special assistant to the President and director of Near East and South Asia affairs; and Christopher Ross, the U.S. ambassador in Damascus.

The expanded meeting was followed by another private meeting between the two presidents.

Clinton Visits Said To 'Herald Hope' for Peace

JN2610153894 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gentlemen: The resounding political and media reverberations preceding and accompanying President Bill Clinton's tour of the region express the world's desire for a just and comprehensive peace in the region. This is especially so since President Clinton's tour and his anticipated summit meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad herald hope for pushing the peace process forward in a balanced and just manner and based on respect for the UN resolutions on which the U.S initiative and the Madrid Conference were founded.

President Clinton has always reiterated the need to continue the peace process according to the principles on which it was based in order to achieve justice, security, and stability for all parties and to secure the interest of the peoples of the region and of the world by realizing a comprehensive and viable peace—a peace based on the resolutions of international legitimacy and on everyone's approval of these resolution by implementing them in a just and equal manner.

The entire world recalls, with appreciation, the Geneva summit between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Bill Clinton at the beginning of this year. The two presidents reiterated the comprehensiveness of peace and the authority of UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, and 425 to secure all the parties' rights to territories, dignity, security, and sovereignty in reaching the honorable peace of the brave, as expressed by the two presidents. Moreover, the entire world strongly appreciated this summit and its results.

However, instead of dealing positively with the great results of this summit—as far as establishing the bases of a real peace—Rabin's government intentionally sought to minimize these results and followed the policy of separate solutions, which are not based on justice, equality, or the implementation of UN resolutions. Moreover, these solutions lack the comprehensiveness necessary to realize the desired peace. This obstructed the peace process, despite the continuous U.S. efforts to extricate it from the state of stalemate and push it toward its objective of achieving a just and comprehensive peace based on the land-for-peace principle.

President Clinton's administration and the international community sensed the seriousness of Syria and of President al-Asad, in person, toward adopting peace as a strategic choice and in opening the road toward it through the initial approval of the U.S. initiative and the Madrid Conference, and then presenting a clear and specific working paper during the sixth round of bilateral talks in Washington. President Clinton's administration and the entire world welcomed this paper and considered it a suitable and important foundation for achieving peace based on the principles of international legitimacy and the pillars of the peace process.

Based on these facts, which have become known to all political circles and to all observers from all viewpoints, it is obvious that the Israeli side is responsible for wasting time, for the faltering of peace process, and for derailing it from the path drawn for it in the U.S. initiative and the Madrid conference. The situation became clear during the Geneva summit between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton. The two presidents emphasized the need to work for rendering the peace process a success through meeting the basic peace requirements, which begin with the return of the occupied land and the implementation of the UN resolutions by all parties.

While we welcome President Clinton's visit to Damascus—the cradle of peace and the capital of clear, balanced, and serious positions in seeking the peace of the brave, which ensures rights and dignity for all—we hoped that President Clinton would first have gone to Israel to get clear approval from the Rabin government on the objective requirements of peace. Syria has repeatedly declared its acceptance of the principles and requirements of peace. In all its positions, Syria has proven its unequivocal seriousness about working to realize a peace that can last and a peace that will satisfy the peoples of the region, who are the real parties concerned and who have a real vested interest in peace.

This cannot be attained without the return of rights. This is what Syria announced through its leader: Full peace in return for full withdrawal.

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Israel's withdrawal from the Golan and south Lebanon and the rest of the occupied territories to the 4 June 1967 borders is both a fair condition and necessary to achieve the peace sought by the world, led by the U.S. sponsor, because it is the peace that can last and continue and because it is the peace of justice and international legitimacy.

We, along all those who are anxious over the security and peace of the region and the world, pin hopes on President Clinton's visit and his important talks with President Hafiz al-Asad to advance the settlement process toward a solid and just peace—an all-inclusive peace, based on ensuring the dignity, security, and rights of all—and in order to establish Syrian-U.S. relations based on the interests of the two peoples and countries, away from all effects and pressures that do not serve the two peoples and that are not based on objective facts.

Damascus, which has been a center of civilization throughout history, hopes that the summit of Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Bill Clinton that it will host tomorrow will be a basis and a starting point to serve the interests of the Syrian Arab and U.S. peoples and that it will witness real achievements toward just and comprehensive peace for all peoples of the region and the world.

Press Welcomes Clinton Visit to Damascus

JN2610145894 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today's papers comment on U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to Damascus tomorrow. The local papers welcomed President Clinton's visit and said that this visit expresses Washington's awareness of Syria's key role in the peace process.

In its editorial on President Clinton's visit, the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: Damascus loves peace just as it loves freedom, dignity, and sovereignty. Anyone who works for the sake of peace, freedom, and justice will find Damascus' doors open to him.

AL-BA'TH adds: Damascus meets courteous greetings with equal or even more courteous greetings. It also acknowledges goodness with gratitude. It shakes the hand extended to it strongly and warmly. Damascus notes President Clinton's role in the improvement of Syrian-U.S. relations following years of estrangement caused by a biased U.S. policy.

AL-BA'TH says: Damascus and its people open their doors and hearts for peace and for all those who come to it in the name of peace. Peace is not a political initiative or an emergency element in the Syrian stand. Rather, as President Hafiz al-Asad has said, it is a strategy we have chosen ourselves and that is in Syria's national and pan-Arab interests. Our choice is not a new one. It is neither the outcome of certain political developments, nor the result of weakness or the absence of support. It is as old as the conflict in the region. UN records and documents can prove this. At a time when Syria was respecting the principles of the United Nations, had accepted its resolutions, and was cooperating with every international effort to achieve a just peace and to end the war, the other party to the conflict was defying the principles of the UN Charter, rebelling against international legitimacy and human rights, and foiling the international initiatives to establish peace. It brought terrorism to the region, launched expansionist wars, and declared plans for establishing a Jewish empire from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: If recent international circumstances have now paved the way for those who once ignored our intentions and aspirations toward achieving a just and comprehensive peace, to discover our true will to establish this peace, then they can count on us to establish a just and comprehensive peace. We neither ask for impossible demands, nor do we reject the objective requirements for peace. We call for the restoration of our land. We do not believe that a people with self-respect can accept bargaining over their land, can relinquish their national soil, or can abandon the future of their sons for any price.

The newspaper TISHRIN welcomes President Clinton's visit and stresses that Damascus has never been an obstacle to a just settlement.

It says: The problem has always been with the Israeli stand, which intransigently rejects the requirements of a true peace. This is why Israel has rejected the principles of the U.S. initiative and the Madrid formula. For the same reason, Rabin's government exerted immense efforts to circumvent the results of the historic summit held in Geneva between Presidents al-Asad and Clinton. Instead of responding to the sincere calls for peace issued at the Geneva summit, Israel disregarded them and proceeded down the road of secret and separate deals. It has now become clear that this cannot serve as a basis for a just and comprehensive peace. At the same time, Israel has exerted efforts to empty the U.S. role in the peace process of any essence.

TISHRIN adds: We welcome President Clinton in Damascus as a great guest of Syria and of President Hafiz al-Asad. He will find every hospitality and cordiality, and will see Syria's full readiness for a just and comprehensive peace.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: We greatly hope that President Clinton will eventually be able to practically implement the ideas he expressed at the Geneva summit and through his various contacts with President al-Asad regarding a just and comprehensive peace, and regarding Washington's desire to play the role of a neutral and honest partner.

In its commentary under the headline "Comprehensive Peace Necessitates Full Withdrawal," the newspaper

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AL-THAWRAH stresses that all those who are concerned with the peace process realize that Israel has been and is still placing obstacles and fabricating difficulties to prevent the peace process from heading toward its aspired objective, particularly on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks.

AL-THAWRAH says: Those are concerned with the peace process, particularly the United States, have several times expressed their conviction in the seriousness of Syria's stand toward this process and its concern for making it succeed.

AL-THAWRAH adds: All sides know, particularly the current U.S. Administration, whose President has said several times that comprehensive peace cannot be achieved in the region without Syria, stressed that in order to be true and entrenched in the region, comprehensive peace necessitates, before anything else, Israel's full withdrawal from the Golan, southern Lebanon, western al-Biqa', and the other occupied Arab territories.

Further Press Comment

JN2710083794 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] AL-THAWRAH discusses the summit that will be held in Damascus today between President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The paper says: This summit is indeed a significant and remarkable event, not only on the regional level, but also on the world level. This is due to the important issues and subjects that will be discussed, both to bolster and improve bilateral ties on a clear basis of understanding and mutual respect, and to examine the future horizons of the peace process and determine the course that it must follow in order to maintain its momentum and credibility and to rectify its imbalances.

The paper adds: Syria welcomes President Clinton and hopes that he will achieve success in his mission to boost the peace process.

The paper stresses that Syria is very keen on taking advantage of the available peace opportunity and is showing full readiness and a positive response to serious and fruitful cooperation with any effort that will help seize this opportunity.

The paper underlines that, with its commitment to the achievement of a just and established solution, and with its call for a comprehensive peace in return for full withdrawal, Syria is making everyone face his historical, political, and moral responsibility.

The paper adds: During his visit to Damascus, President Clinton will feel that Syria's adherence to the principles of a just solution is based on its concern for seeing the peace process leading to the desired objectives—ending occupation and tension, removing the elements of potential explosion, and returning rights to their owners.

AL-BA'TH says in an editorial: When Israel lost every hope of imposing its policy and conditions on Syria, and when the realities generated by the separate deals confirmed that the only kind of peace that can survive in the region is comprehensive and complete peace, a serious move started in that direction and the U.S. secretary of state made several visits to the Middle East, but without achieving any progress because of Israel's intransigent and rejectionist attitude.

The paper stresses that the forthcoming Damascus summit between President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. President Bill Clinton will be important because Washington has stressed its commitment to work for achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region. This position was reaffirmed by President Bill Clinton on the eve of his Middle East tour.

The paper says it believes that the Damascus summit affirms Syria's weighty and important role and constitutes an acknowledgement by all parties that it is leader al-Asad who holds the keys to peace, not an incomplete or conditioned peace, but the comprehensive peace that will achieve security and stability and guarantee the return of territory and rights to their owners.

The paper concludes by saying: Al-Asad's Damascus, the unshakable fortress of Arabism, will receive President Clinton with all honor. The beloved leader of the nation will remain glorious, welcoming his guests and championing the cause of the Arabs with an absolute concern for every right.

For its part, TISHRIN discusses the situation and current circumstances in the Middle East. The paper says: The region will not enjoy security or stability without a genuine, honorable, comprehensive, and just peace.

The paper says the desired Middle East peace must meet the peoples' demands and aspirations, end all causes of tension and animosity, and spread the climate of friendship and tranquility.

The paper adds: Based on this premise, Syria has persistently advocated a just and comprehensive peace that can be accepted by the current Arab generations and will be protected by the generations to come. Therefore, Syria is not prepared to engage in a peace that is not comprehensive or just because it is certain that this will not be the desired peace, which returns rights and preserves every grain of national and pan-Arab soil.

The paper adds: Peace hinges on Israel's complete withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 borders.

The paper stresses that this Syrian position is not due to inflexibility, intransigence, or one-upmanship. This position is in complete harmony with the spirit of the UN Security Council resolutions, the UN principles, and

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the substance of the U.S. initiative; that is, swapping land for peace, TISHRIN adds.

The paper blames Israel for the stumbling talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. It adds: With the arrival of President Bill Clinton to Damascus today to hold talks with President Hafiz al-Asad on the means to boost the peace process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, Syria will not spare any effort to support President Clinton's' endeavor to save the Middle East from the whirlpool of wars and conflicts.

SANA Director Discusses Clinton Visit

JN2610204294 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1729 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Telephone interview with SANA Director General Fayiz al-Sayigh by Salah Salamah on 26 October; place not given—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Salamah] Mr. Fayiz al-Sayigh, director general of the Syrian Arab News Agency, SANA: Today, a peace treaty was signed between Jordan and Israel. This is the second treaty to be signed between Israel and an Arab state. Also, as you must be well aware, this treaty constitutes the third Arab-Israeli reconciliation agreement achieved on a bilateral basis. In your capacity as a Syrian and Arab media official, how do you evaluate these kind of partial settlements, which utterly abandon the pan-Arab spirit that has characterized the Arab-Israeli conflict since the beginning of this century?

[Al-Sayigh] As a matter of fact, I will begin where your question ended. It is quite clear that the agreements concluded outside the overall Arab context and outside the pan-Arab framework cannot promote the cause of peace. Consequently, they may prejudice the entire peace process. We had hoped that the agreements between any Arab side and Israel would be concluded within the framework of inter-Arab coordination and consultations, which have always been sought by Damascus since the launching of the peace process in Madrid three years ago. Since the convocation of the Madrid conference, Syria has been eager to see the Arabs come up with a unified position reflecting coordination as well as a common desire to safeguard the national and pan-Arab interests of the Arab side. Likewise, we believe that Israel has made extensive plans to deal with the Arab sides one at a time in order to make gains that will promote Israeli, rather than Arab interests.

At any rate, the Jordanian-Israeli agreement is a unilateral agreement by any standard. It was concluded outside the framework of inter-Arab coordination. It is our belief that it should have been concluded within the context of a comprehensive peace agreement that would achieve just and comprehensive peace, and restore all the territories and rights.

With regard to our position toward this agreement, it has been articulated by President Hafiz al-Asad in the immediate aftermath of the summit he held with President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, when he said that we will neither support nor oppose this agreement tangibly or concretely.

[Salamah] U.S. President Bill Clinton will arrive in Damascus tomorrow for talks with President Hafiz al-Asad for the second time, including the Geneva summit they held. In your opinion, what are the expected results of this visit in terms of bilateral ties between Damascus and Washington? It is to be recalled that several U.S. quarters, particularly pro-Israel quarters in the United States, have thus far continued to tarnish the image of the Syrian policy before the U.S. public. What are your expectations from President Clinton's visit in terms of bilateral ties?

[Al-Sayigh] Undoubtedly, President Bill Clinton's visit to Damascus is important and historic for several reasons which cannot be discussed at length right now. Nonetheless, the importance of the visit lies in the clear and tangible U.S. efforts to promote the peace process, and the U.S. Administration's determination to achieve comprehensive, just, and durable peace in the Middle East region. This has been underscored by the Geneva summit, and the bilateral contacts U.S. President Bill Clinton has held with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad at various times and on several occasions. All these bilateral contacts have confirmed that Syria is serious in its quest for just and comprehensive peace. In the same vein, these contacts have underscored the serious U.S. efforts to advance the peace process, as well as the U.S. willingness to do all that can be done to make the peace process produce a comprehensive and durable peace that will promote the interests of all the peoples of the region, as well as security and peace for all.

With respect to the bilateral level, you remember that in the Geneva summit on 16 January of this year it was agreed to form a bilateral committee chaired by the two countries foreign ministers, Warren Christopher and Mr. Faruq al-Shar', to study the file of Syrian-U.S. relations. As you yourself mentioned a short while ago, these relations have been harmed by many hostile quarters that do not wish to have normal Syrian-U.S. relations, and from time to time these quarters harm the image the U.S. public opinion has of Syria.

However, I believe that the true image of Syria is substantiated by facts and documents. All the difficulties this region and the current stage of the peace process experience have once again emphasized the purity and seriousness of the Syrian stand, of Syria's abidance by the peace process, and of its eagerness to establish equal and balanced bilateral relations in the interest of the U.S. and Syrian peoples.

[Salamah] Mr. al-Sayigh, since the Madrid conference, Syria has been calling on the United States to act as a full and honest partner in the peace process, and Syria insists on the need to have Washington commit Israel to the terms of reference of the peace process and the resolutions of international legitimacy. Do you expect that

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President Bill Clinton will bring with him to Syria this time new proposals that would contribute to invigorating the Syrian- Israeli negotiations track?

[Al-Sayigh] We were hoping that President Bill Clinton would visit Israel before Damascus so that he may bring with him ideas that would push the peace process ahead. This is because the peace process is paralyzed due to no fault of Syria. This is a fact known by the entire world. The peace process has stopped as a result of Israel's intransigence and because it has not withdrawn or has not announced, so far, that it will withdraw from the occupied Syrian Golan and from southern Lebanon, although three years have passed since the beginning of the peace process in Madrid. We warmly welcome the U.S. President and we were hoping that he would visit Israel before Damascus to bring with him something that would push the peace process ahead, especially as the Syrian stand on the issue is clear and needs no clarification given that it embodies the Madrid spirit and the spirit of the U.S. peace initiative itself.

We believe that the gaps that are mentioned from time to time are really only one gap and this is in Israel's hands. There are not many gaps, because the basis of the peace process is the withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. The requirements of the peace process consist of the withdrawal from the occupied territories and the implementation of the international resolutions—Resolution 242, 338, and Resolution 425 on Southern Lebanon. Thus, the principle of land for peace must be implemented because land is the introduction to any peace whatsoever. Without the liberation of the land, without completely regaining the land, there can be no peace and no treaty or agreement can be concluded if the land remains occupied, under whatever names others want to use as a way out.

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Afghanistan

Mojahedin Seize Positions From Mercenary Forces

LD2310191794 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 0730 GMT 23 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Ten important positions of the mercenary forces in Khenjan area were conquered as a result of a swift operation by the High Coordination Council's forces.

A responsible source of the High Coordination Council [HCC] reported by phone to the correspondent of the Radio Message of Freedom that the HCC forces carried out an operation around Khenjan district. As a result, ten important posts of the mercenary coalition forces including the Freshtagan post, were conquered by the Mojahedin.

The report adds that 19 men of the coalition were either killed or injured. A famous commander of the coalition—Kandahari—is among those injured.

India

Rao: Israel-Jordan Treaty 'of Great Significance'

BK2610160394 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 26 oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India has welcomed the signing of the [Israel-Jordan] peace treaty. In a message to King Husayn and Mr. Yitzhaq Rabin, the prime minister said the treaty signifies a fresh beginning in West Asia. Mr. Narasimha Rao said it is a historic occasion of great significance and deserves commendation. Mr. Rao said that the treaty is the outcome of a bold initiative. It has raised hopes of achieving a just and lasting peace in West Asia and an era of stability and prosperity in the region. The prime minister assured India's full support to the peace process in the region.

Minister Speaks at UN Committee on Nuclear Issue

BK2510135794 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India has called for necessary modifications in the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty] to convert it into an instrument for achieving genuine nonproliferation. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. R.L. Bhatia, made this call while addressing the Disarmament and International Security Committee of the United Nations. He reiterated India's commitment to work for a world free of all weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear arms. The minister expressed concern that the illicit arms trade despite its linkages to terrorism and drug trafficking does not get reflected in the multilateral exercise devoted to increasing arms transparency. Mr. Bhatia said India's approach in its own region has been to negotiate for such measures with all its neighbors based upon the dynamics of bilateral relationship on mutual interest.

Commander in Chief of Kashmir Militant Group Killed

BK2510135494 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Kashmir valley, security forces achieved a major success when they killed a self-styled commander in chief of Muslim mojahedin, Abdul Majid Dhar. According to an official spokesman, Dhar was killed along with five associates in an encounter at Baramula. Elsewhere in the state, 14 militants were killed in separate encounters. A large quantity of arms and ammunition were recovered from the killed militants.

Special Anti-Insurgency Force Deployed in Kashmir

BK2710093194 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The first unit of Rashtriya Rifles—the specially trained force to deal with militancy, is being deployed in the Rajaori-Punch Sector of Jammu and Kashmir. Units of this force were deployed in the Doda District of the state last month to deal with insurgency there.

Over 300 Underground Militants Surrender in Mizoram

BK2710092794 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Mizoram, more than 300 underground activists of the Hamar People's Convention, HPC, have surrendered at a function in (Saizon) near Aijal yesterday. They laid down their arms before the chief minister, Mr. Lal Thanhawla. Welcoming the HPC activists, the chief minister asked them to work for peace and prosperity of the state. The surrender took place as per the memorandum of settlement signed between the state government and the HPC in July this year.

Commentary Outlines Scope of Antiterrorism Agreement

BK2710035194 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Commentary by Atehshan Qureshi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India and Canada have signed a very significant treaty in Toronto. It will lead to mutual cooperation between the two countries in the field of investigation, detection, and follow-up prosecution in courts of those who indulged in crimes in either of the two countries. Its real importance lies in dealing with

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terrorists and those indulging in smuggling of hashish and other contraband stuff. The union home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, visited Canada to formalize the agreement. The treaty was signed on Monday when Mr. Chavan and Mr. Herbert Gray, Canada's Solicitor General. A lot of homework had apparently been done in both New Delhi and Toronto before the home minister went there.

The new treaty is a sequel to the earlier extradition treaty between the two countries, which was signed in 1987 in order to tackle the problem of international terrorism. One of the significant aspects of this accord was that terrorists and other criminals will be handed over to the Indian or Canadian authorities as the case may be on the basis of information about their criminal activities provided by the initiating country. Under the new dispensation, the two countries will help each other locating the persons wanted, share each other's information about their activities, and delivery of seized materials. The investigating and prosecuting agencies would also provide assistance in serving court or other orders to the suspects living or hiding in either country.

All these steps are intended as a prelude to the arrest and extradition of the suspects for further prosecution in the respective lands for offenses listed against them. It has now become a matter of common occurrence that foreigners smuggle hashish and other drugs, and they are often caught selling them in the Indian market in clandestine manner. But, these may be small crimes in comparison to the activities of international terrorists, who might take illegal refuge in one country or the other, to escape arrest. The treaty is designed to frustrate these efforts. Mr. Chavan has described the treaty as a far reaching effect. He said it will boost Indo-Canadian cooperation in other fields also and would help each other in preventing crime and punishing the terrorists and other criminals.

Iran

Khamene'i Criticizes Mideast Developments

NC2710094794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0715 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Speech by Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, at 'Abd-al-'Azim Hasani Mosque in Rey on 27 October—live, broadcast in progress]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Here I must refer to a major world problem that has been directly linked to us, the Iranian nation, and to the system of the Islamic Republic: the increasing presence of foreigners in the Persian Gulf. This is a wrong move. The president or leader of one country or another can open his mouth and say: Our interests in the Persian Gulf dictate our presence there. The interests of all the aggressors of the world dictate that they be present in the place where they have carried out that aggression. But is this reason enough to go and carry out aggression? The interests of all the thieves of the world dictate that they steal a shop, a house, and a property belonging to another. And since their interests dictate this, should they go and steal? What kind of talk is this?

The presence of America in the first place and of other foreign countries in the Persian Gulf in the second is a wrong and tension-creating act. They say: We want to create peace in the Middle East. What they mean is a compromise between the Arabs and the Israelis, but this is not peace. It is an injustice, but not peace. It is an unjust compromise.

I decisively state, and history will prove, that the American President and officials are directly to blame for each Palestinian youth who is rolled in blood, each bereaved Palestinian mother, and each Palestinian family that loses its head or its livelihood. [Chants of "death to America"]

Why do they speak and act without thinking, without examining things, and without calling on human conscience? Is it not true that those who are in power in the occupying Zionist regime today are all, probably without exception, foreigners who went there from various parts of the world during the past few decades? Is this not so? Which one of them is Palestinian? Whose fathers were Palestinians? Are they not foreigners? Why do they ignore such a crystal-clear truth, these advocators of democracy and of humanity but who are actually antihuman? Are the Palestinians not residents of the territory that they share no part in ruling today?

Why should the head of the Zionist regime officially announce that the Palestinian members of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] should be assassinated wherever they are found? Is this not state terrorism? Why is the world silent on this clear and obvious case of state terrorism? Why are the so-called human rights organization silent? Why?

Why should such great injustice be done against the Palestinian nation inside Palestine, in Lebanon, and anywhere else where Palestinians live? Why? And then they want all the governments and nations to come and to put their signature on these crimes, and they complain about the Islamic Republic of Iran not accepting this compromise. Why should we accept? What should we accept? Which justice-seeking person accepts such great injustice for us to accept it? Do the Arab nations whose weak leaders have put their signature on this unjust compromise accept this treacherous move? Does the Jordanian nation accept it? Does the Egyptian nation accept it? Does the Moroccan nation accept it?

Their kings and leaders say what they want to say. Well, what does one expect from the king of Jordan? What does one expect from the king of Morocco and from others? Obviously, governments and regimes can say what they want to say. But the nations have never and will never accepted this unjust action.

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The Zionist knife-wielders who are alien to human sentiments have gathered in Palestine and are placing the owners of this land under pressure and torture. They are backed by American money. Should we be indifferent toward all this? What kind of wrong and idiotic expectations do the American officials and some of their allies have toward independent governments? Well, you can go and ask your puppets to do whatever you want, but their nations will not do it.

How can one be silent toward this great injustice, let alone endorse and accept it? And then in Palestine, the Americans and their friends claim that they want to create peace and to end conflicts. We have said that this is actually not peace, but injustice. Then they bring ships and submarines to the Persian Gulf; they bring dozens of warships; they bring hundreds of aircraft. Why do you bring all these? What business do you have here? Whom do you want to intimidate? Whom do you want to threaten? Whom are you confronting?

They have come on the pretext of Iraq, but Iraq has withdrawn and gone. But they are still in the Persian Gulf. What is your intention? Do you think that this great and splendorous nation is afraid of your idiotic acts? Have you not experienced this nation? For eight years all of you joined hands and stood behind Iraq. American officers even shuttled back and forth from the Iraqi fronts and they closely interfered in Iraq's attacks on Iran. All of you were holding hands and sitting near each other. You imposed pressure for eight years. But you saw how this heroic and brave country defended itself. And you have still not come to know this nation? Fie!

You should have become acquainted with this nation, a nation whose heart is illuminated with faith, a nation that has accepted the Koran with all its might, a nation that has stood up with all its might against all the superpowers, a nation that has never feared in its heart from any world power, a nation that is ready to teach a lesson to any aggressor with its steely fist [chants of "God is great," "death to America," and other slogans]. But, unfortunately, we see how blindness has prevented some from becoming well-acquainted with this nation.

It is good for our neighbors in the Persian Gulf to know one thing. We clearly state this without any motive to hide the truth. Never! We are neither aware of anyone nor do we need anyone. Thank God, the Islamic Republic of Iran has a very powerful presence in this region and all those who should are taking it into account. We clearly state that for the past 15 years the enemies have been whispering in the ears of our neighbors in the Persian Gulf: fear Iran. Fear the Islamic Republic of Iran. They have falsely and inopportunely frightened them of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Why? Because the old policy of the colonialists is divide and rule. They should spread discord.

It is clear that if the Persian Gulf littoral countries are united through and are cooperating with a powerful and popular country, they will form an immense power in this oil-rich and sensitive area in the world. Well, America and Europe want free oil. They want cheap—and actually free—oil. The money that they pay for the oil is like no money at all. If Europe and America owned the oil that they are taking without any obstacles from the Persian Gulf and the people in Iran and the people in this region were dying of the heat or the cold and wanted one drop of oil, they would not give it to them. This is the way they are. See what they are doing with those countries that do not have these divine resources. This is the way they are. And then they come and take this commodity so easily by creating competition and hostility in the Persian Gulf. Well, this is the policy of divide and rule. And this is exactly what they have whispered in the ears of the Persian Gulf shaykhs and leaders. But we tell them: Identify your enemy. Arrogance is your enemy. America is your enemy. Britain is your enemy. All those who want to plunder you are your enemies, and they plunder you from two sides. They take your oil and they sell their dead stock to you; and when you walk down the streets of Persian Gulf littoral states, you can see so many products from the factories from all over the world that one is struck with awe. Their potable water, their herbs, and everything else they have is imported from abroad, mostly from European countries or the West in general; from Europe, America, some Latin American countries, and from Japan in Asia. This is the way they plunder those countries.

The Islamic Republic does not mislead any person or government. The Islamic Republic's only intention is to direct, assist, guide, and cooperate. They should be careful and identify their enemy and know what they are doing so that they heed what God Almighty said in the Koran in the conversation between Satan and those deceived by Satan, that when things become difficult Satan leaves. [passage omitted]

I am afraid that if those in the Persian Gulf littoral states listen to the words uttered by the Satans of arrogance in the world today, they will have no alternative but to start taunting each other.

The Iranian nation is a pious nation that is inspired and is taught by the Koran. We love all human beings, apart from those who are anti-human. We treat all human beings, except those who are anti-human, well. We accept all nations and we extend a hand of friendship to all, except for those whose governments have formed their policies on the basis of corruption, deceit, and sin. Of course, I may be able to say that there is no nation in the world with which we do not have friendly relations. If there is any problem it is between us and their governments, and that only applies to a couple of governments in the world. This is the way of Islamic thought. Accepting humanity; loving human beings; valuing peace, friendship, and affection; opposing evil, war, and corruption anywhere in the world are the policies of the Islamic Republic, both of the nation and the government.

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I would like to add something in the conclusion of my remarks to you, dear brothers and sisters. Despite the enemy's efforts and despite the plots that you are hearing about and all this maliciousness against the Islamic Republic of Iran, even our enemies admit that one of the most powerful and influential governments in the world and the region is the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [chants of "God is great" and "death to America"]

I would like to tell you, the dear nation, that if the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is dear and powerful, if the government is respected, it is because of you the nation. It is because of your faith and your devotion. It is because of what your youths did on the war fronts and who are showing their presence today too. It is because of all these things. It is this devotion, this sincerity, this basiji spirit, this hezbollah spirit, this pious heart, this efficient hand, this stable foot, and this open and alert eye that have elevated this nation and will elevate it even more. God willing, all these things will help to advance efforts better than before and solve problems. And, with God's blessing and with the support of the Prophet 'Ali, they will disgrace and shame all the enemies of this nation. May God's blessings be upon you. [chants of "Khamene'i, God preserve you"]

Clinton Visit, 'Compromise' Accord Assailed

NC2710095294 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0445 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Commentary by the News Research and Commentary Group]

[FBIS Translated Text] Visiting the Middle East, U.S. President Bill Clinton called on Washington's friends to isolate the Islamic Republic of Iran for the sake of peace. This call shows who is in favor and who is against compromise in the Middle East and demonstrates the unrealistic foundations on which the White House has based its policies.

The accord between Jordan and the Zionist regime, the signing ceremony of which Clinton attended, continues to face extensive popular opposition despite America's efforts to portray it as beneficial. The announcement that American financial assistance to Jordan will be resumed, Clinton's promise to King Husayn of Jordan to disregard Amman's multi-billion dollar debts, as well as similar promises by Clinton to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat have not changed the Jordanian and Palestinian people's stance on compromise with the Zionist regime. By declaring public mourning and organizing demonstrations and extensive protests against compromise with the Zionist regime, the Jordanian and Palestinian people have shown that compromise with the Zionist regime has no popular backing and that what the regional leaders are doing is not founded on strong bases.

Clinton's unprecedented decision to visit Jerusalem on his trip to occupied Palestine is yet another sign of America's unrealistic policies in the region. Jerusalem is among the territories occupied in 1967 from which the Zionist regime should unconditionally withdraw on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242. Washington has opposed transferring its embassy to Jerusalem, which the Zionist regime has declared its capital, and White House officials have shown no intention of stabilizing the usurping domination over this city. In the PLO-Zionist accord the city's situation is not stabilized. Clinton's visit to this holy Islamic city further reveals the truth that America is not an impartial mediator in the Middle East compromise process, but has always been working toward gaining more benefits and toward the stabilization of the Zionist regime's usurping actions.

Political analysts believe that while America is trying to impose compromise on the region with the help of the equation of power it has established in the Middle East, disregarding the sentiments of over 1 billion Muslims toward Jerusalem, that is, their first kiblah, will prevent the emergence of favorable grounds for the stabilization of the usurping existence of the Zionist regime in the heart of the Islamic world.

U.S. 'Hegemonistic Spirit' Criticized

LD2610140194 Tehran IRNA in English 1244 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Oct. 26, IRNA—The English daily "TEHRAN TIMES" Wednesday wrote that 30 years ago today the great Khomeyni ushered in a resolute action against the United States which had taken the fate of the Muslim Iranian people in its hands.

Borrowing Imam Khomeyni's words, capitulation (i.e., Americans in Iran would not be tried for any crime) boded ill for Iran and its people who would be doomed to be colonized and debased, the paper said. The law would lend credibility to Americans' impudence, power-wielding, and brashness, it was a licence to ignore our Islamic religion and honor, it added.

The arrogant Americans indulged in such aggressive behavior that is observable in their international policy, the article said adding that, they are criminals who like to be free in their lawbreaking and violations. "It is because of this hegemonistic spirit of the U.S. that the world is idly watching the United States' incessant aggressions."

Is it not in conformity with the hegemonistic enforcement of capitulation to violate the borders of other countries, their air space and their sea space without being called to account. In the face of such aggressive policies, the silence of the permanent and other members of the Security Council implies nothing but obeisance to capitulation, it wrote.

"At present only one spot in the world voices protest against this power-wielding hegemony and that is the

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Islamic Republic of Iran, the only people who are continuing their blood-stained resistance," the paper stressed.

Referring to Imam Khomeyni's struggle against capitulation, the daily noted that this awakening and fundamentalism is growing despite the storm of preventive efforts by the United States and international Zionism.

"If Imam Khomeyni stood against American hegemony, today the world of Islam stands against the United States," it concluded.

Husayn Said Risking al-Sadat's 'Fate'

LD2710092794 Tehran IRNA in English 0722 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, 27 Oct (IRNA)—A morning English-language daily here Thursday commented on the ongoing visit to the Middle East of Bill Clinton and said "any Arab ruler who shakes hands with the Zionists should beware the fate that al-Sadat fell into."

"TEHRAN TIMES" recalled the act of treason initiated by Anwar al-Sadat of Egypt who had entered a so-called peace treaty with the Zionists and compared it to what happened in Jordan Wednesday [26 October].

The U.S. Democratic Party suffered the worst humiliation in the early 1980s when the then President Jimmy Carter tried to counter the Islamic forces of this region the paper said adding that for the next 12 years no Democrat was elected to the White House as president.

This month Clinton was trying hard to vindicate the record of his party by humiliating the Islamic world, said TEHRAN TIMES and noted that it was a crucial time as far as U.S. strategy was concerned.

The paper noted that Clinton administration has made no secret of its efforts to eliminate the hostility between Arab states and the Zionist regime from the very first day it took control of the White House.

"Unfortunately, the U.S. officials have forgotten that Arabs, particularly the Palestinians, attach very little significance to paper-signing ceremonies where their Muslim sentiments are betrayed and the sacrifices of millions ignored," the article said.

Warning that the fate of Clinton who masterminded the ceremonies by ignoring the aspirations of a billion Muslims remained to be seen, the paper concluded "by his treacherous act he started his trek down the road of no return."

President Explains Campaign Against Profiteering

LD2610141394 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized the great leader's [Khamene'i] support and the government's firm decision to campaign against profiteers until the establishment of a complete balance in the supply and demand market. He considered that the country's production capability to saturate the market with essential and basic goods was sufficient and satisfactory.

He said that the supply of goods to the market was well backed and there was no need for concern. In such cases where there was need to import special goods, the required currency had been provided for this purpose.

The president was speaking today at a meeting to familiarize provincial governors, heads of the inspection and price control organizations, and officials in charge of the implementation of the state penal code with the policy and structure of the proposed market control. He referred to the government's past policy of backing commodities in the country by increasing production. He said: At present, after this achievement, the time has come to deal effectively and seriously with profiteers and those centers that are not ready to accept a fair profit, so that by continuing the policy of support for producers, economic saboteurs and middlemen could be eliminated from the market and the goods could reach the consumers at realistic prices.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned about the mischief and conspiracy of some profiteers, and political currents aiming to create a poisoned climate by spreading rumors to weaken the extensive campaign against surcharging. He added: Alertness, cooperation, and full coordination among the bodies implementing the policy—the officials and the public who have always been the bastion of the state—guarantees the success of the recent move.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the extensive welcome given by our revolutionary people to the recent government policy to combat surcharging was a very effective support for its implementation. He added that the proposal to set up special equipment to calculate the sale of goods and control the price- tagging of goods in big stores is also being studied in the implementation of the recent policy. He added that the list of those essential goods that are under government control that were announced earlier, was not a final one and gradually it will include other items and essential goods until the market reaches stability and balance.

The president advised the official to avoid taking an extreme course in implementing the campaign against profiteers, adding that the general move should be in a direction whereby the culture of Islamic trade and transactions govern the market and enables the producers and retailers to be content with a just profit and refrain from profiteering and hoarding, and, in this way, fulfill God's approval and people's prayers. He also mentioned the need to speed up the creation of supermarkets chains and the strengthening of consumer-cooperatives nationwide by the Ministries of Commerce and Cooperatives, and the accurate implementation of the state penal code with

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the cooperation and coordination of the country's officials for the realization of this cause.

At the end of the session, Justice Minister Mohammad Esma'il Shushtari explained the structure of the mobile courts to investigate violations by the profiteers and methods of the implementation of the state penal code.

According to the report, Commerce Minister Yahya ol-Eshaq replied to the questions raised by the participants on methods of implementing the bill on the campaign against profiteers.

Sri Lanka

Peace Initiative With LTTE 'Temporarily' Suspended

BK2610131894 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Sri Lankan Government says the peace initiative with the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of of Tamil Eelam] has been temporarily suspended but not given up. Addressing newsmen in Colombo today, the deputy defense minister, Mr. Anuruddha Ratwatte, refuted the United National Party's charge that the government colluded with the LTTE in eliminating the presidential candidate Gamini Dissanayake. He denied that adequate security had not been provided to Mr. Dissanayake. Mr. Ratwatte said the government will do its best to nab the culprits.

Government Said Downplaying LTTE Role in Attack

BK2710082294 Hong Kong AFP in English 0806 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Oct 27 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's opposition accused the government Thursday [27 October] of downplaying the role of Tamil Tigers in the killing of an opposition leader, in order to justify peace initiatives with the rebel group.

"We feel that the government is very embarassed by this killing. The government is bending backwards to show that its negotiating partner has nothing to do with this," legislator Sarath Amunugama of the opposition United National Party (UNP) said.

He said the state media was "censoring" reports implicating the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Monday's suicide bombing of a UNP campaign rally, killing the party's presidential candidate, Gamini Dissanayake, and 56 others.

The government of Premier Chandrika Kumaratunga has denied the charge.

Kumaratunga's government opened talks with the LTTE soon after winning the August 16 parliamentary elections, but the peace process has been put on hold following the assassination and a nation-wide state of emergency declared.

Another UNP legislator, Susil Moonesinghe, said his party considered the November 9 election a referendum on the LTTE and the government's peace talks with the rebels.

"I saw a poster saying 'give a hand to peace.' I want to add another line to that and say '...to kill the UNP leaders'," Moonesinghe said at an opposition press conference.

The UNP has already nominated Dissanayake's widow, Srima, to be the party's candidate and challenge Kumaratunga in the elections.

A relative of Dissanayake, Wickrema Weerasooriya, said although the government granted a national funeral to the slain leader, the blacking out of funeral proceedings from state media amounted to "killing the corpse."

IGP: LTTE Reportedly Threatened Gamini Dissanayake

BK2710114294 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The deputy defense minister, Anuruddha Ratwatte, said at the cabinet press briefing yesterday that there was no need for speculation with regard to the assassination of the leader of the opposition, Gamini Dissanayake, before investigations are completed. The CID [Criminal Investigation Department] will carry out a proper investigation unlike in the past. Mr. Dia Pereira, PC [police commissioner], has been assigned to look after the interests of the late Mr. Dissanayake. The IGP [Inspector General of Police] asked whether the family needed any foreign experts to investigate the incident. Dr. Wickrema Weerasooriya [relative of Dissanayake] said that there was no need for it as they had full confidence in the ability of the CID. The IGP, Frank de Silva, said that at the time of the incident at Grand Pass there were 190 policemen deployed on duty. Seven policemen attached to the presidential security division were among the 54 who lost their lives in the explosion. Mr. Frank de Silva said that the late Mr. Dissanayake had at various times been threatened with death, and the police and defense sources had informed him as a presidential candidate adequate security was provided to Mr. Dissanayake. [sentence as heard] The IGP said that according to intelligence reports the threats were probably posed by the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam].

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